Innocent Li

3

Kei Kusunoki

TOKYOPOP®

Manga
Horror/Action
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Innocent L

The final, chilling volume brings an end to the mortal combat between the witch hunters and the witches. Rinko, who strayed from the group, now faces a hunter with a personal vengeance. In order to fight back, she must cast a curse—on herself. Meanwhile, Teppei joins Makoto, Mahiro, and Yunagi to help them fight off the hunters. But the witches may not be as weak as they seem...

"Horror fans are sure to lap up every gruesome panel set before them. As cool as the artwork is, it'd mean nothing without a good storyline, and this one's got a great one." -IGN

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OT
OLDER TEEN
AGE 16+

HORROR

SHE WAS NO L NGER A GIRL.
NOR WAS SHE A GOD OF THE MOUNTAINS..
..NOR EVEN A WITCH.

楠桂
イノセント
innocent
第16話 wickedness(邪悪)

Innocent

VOLUME 3
BY
KEI KUSUNOKI

TOKYOPOP
HAMBURG // LONDON // LOS ANGELES // TOKYO

第16話 wicked ness（邪悪）
第17話 warning（警告）
第18話 wail（嘆きと哀しみ）
第19話 waver（ためらい）
第20話 [illegible] with devil
第21話 [illegible] soul
第22話 [illegible]
第23話 wake from death
最終話 world without end

Innocent W Volume 3
Created by Kei Kusunoki

Translation - Christopher North
English Adaptation - Daniel Mishkin
Copy Editor - Stephanie Duchin
Retouch and Lettering - Star Print Brokers
Production Artist - Mike Graniel
Graphic Designer - Louis Csontos

Editor - Paul Morrissey
Digital Imaging Manager - Chris Buford
Pre-Production Supervisor - Erika Terriquez
Art Director - Anne Marie Horne
Production Manager - Elisabeth Brizzi
Managing Editor - Vy Nguyen
VP of Production - Ron Klamert
Editor-in-Chief - Rob Tokar
Publisher - Mike Kiley
President and C.O.O. - John Parker
C E O and Chief Creative Officer - Stuart Levy

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TOKYOPOP Inc
5900 Wilshire Blvd Suite 2000
Los Angeles, CA 90036

E-mail: info@TOKYOPOP.com
Come visit us online at www.TOKYOPOP.com

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Ch. 1
THE WITCH GIRL?
IS SHE ALIVE?!
YOU THINK SHE COULD HAVE SURVIVED THOSE CRUEL KILLERS? WITH NO WEAPONS?
I SAW THE GIRL WHO WAS GUTTED. AND I LET THREE OTHERS RUN AWAY...
...BUT I WONDER IF THEY'RE STILL ALIVE

DO YOU HAVE A PLAN?
NOT YET.
BUT I DID SCATTER BLOOD ALL OVER.
HUH...? BLOOD?
ANYWAY, MY BLEEDING'S STOPPED.
...SO WE SHOULD GO FIND THE OTHER TWIN AND THE WITCH GIRL.

NO WAY... THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
THAT WOULD BE LIKE...
YOU'VE GOT A FUNNY LOOK...
...LIKE YOU'RE SEEING A WITCH FOR THE FIRST TIME...
KILLED WITH A CURSE

MISS KISARAGI SHOULD BE FINE...
I SAW THE SPIRITS OF THE THREE WHO ATTACKED US.
I THINK IT WAS MISS KISARAGI WHO DID IT.
THE THREE... YOU MEAN THE FATSO, THE SHRIMP, AND THE TALL ONE?
I'D EXPECT THAT FROM A LADY SHAMAN OF THE IZANAGI STYLE.
EXPECT WHAT? WHAT DID SHE DO?

WE ARE INNOCENT WITCHES.

OR DID YOU FORGET THIS IS A WITCH HUNT?
AND YOU'RE A FORMER HUNTER WHO HAD A CHANGE OF HEART-- PROTECTING US INSTEAD OF HUNTING.

DON'T WORRY, TETSUSEI.

NO--NOT YET!! I CAN'T DIE YET!
UGH
NOT UNTIL I KILL THAT WITCH!!
FUNNY THAT I SHOULD HAVE GIVEN UP MY WILL TO LIVE... BUT NOW WISH TO LIVE A LITTLE LONGER.

ON MARISHEI SOWAKA
ON MARISHEI SOWAKA
ON..
URG.
GAH!!

WHOA!

?
EAT YOU UP...
WHAT THE--? THIS IS TOO WEIRD
PROBLEMS WITCH?
WAIT UNTIL I CURSE YOU.
WILL NOT FORGIVE
WILL CATCH YOU
WILL DRAG YOU
WILL NOT LET GO
PULL YOU APART

..WHO GETS A PIECE OF WHOM!!
YOU'RE TRYING TO INTERFERE WITH MY CURSE?
AND YOU WANT TO GET A PIECE OF ME, OF COURSE
SURE..A WITCH LIKE YOU WOULDN'T JUST SIT AROUND AND WAIT FOR ME TO CURSE YOU.
BUT WE'LL JUST SEE...

WHAT'S SHE..

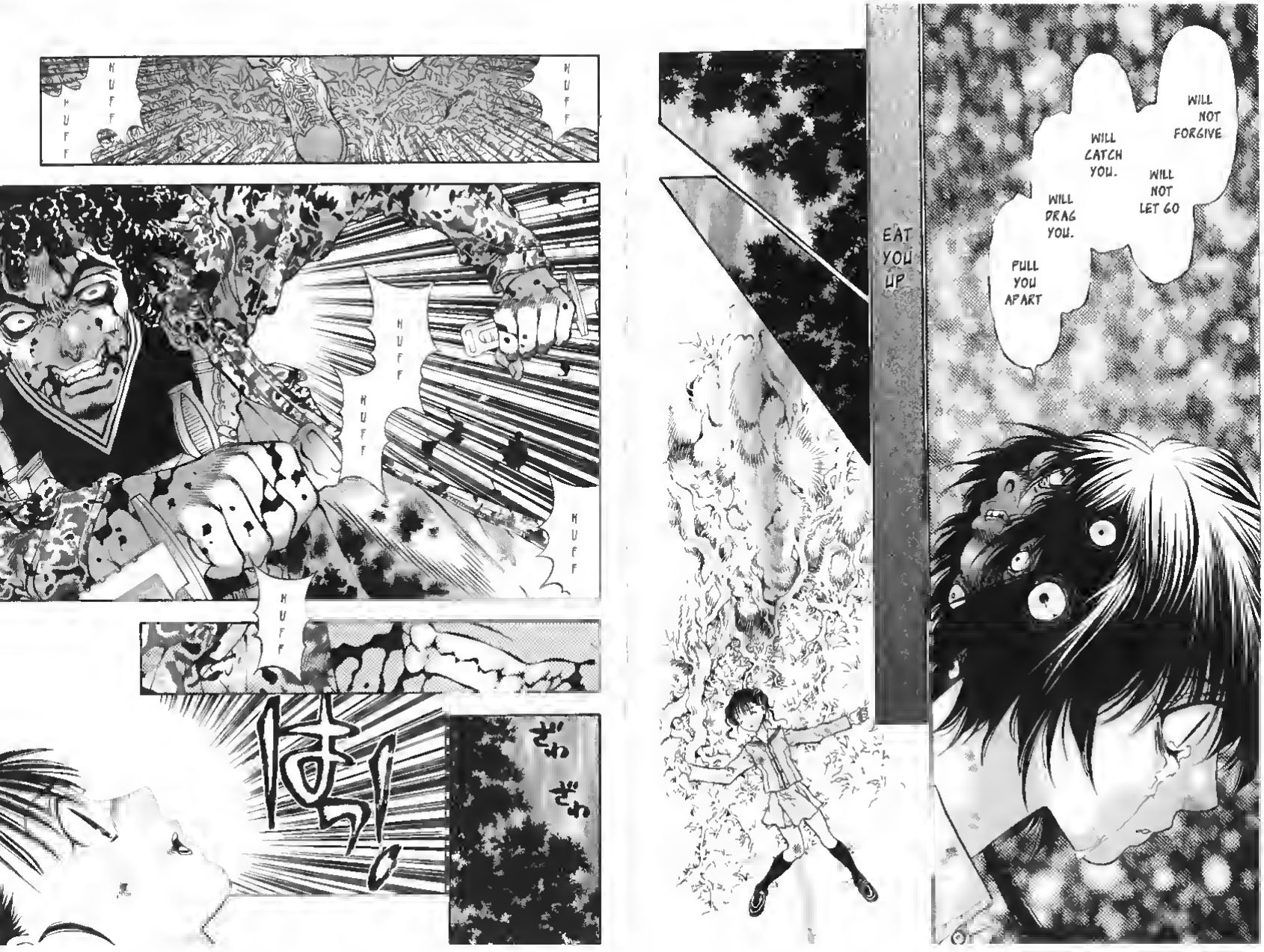
...CURSE YOUR OWN BODY?!
YOU... WHAT'S HAPPENING NOW?
DID... DID YOU...
DAMN IT, WHAT ARE YOU--? YOU KEEP TOUCHING ME.
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
THIS--! THIS IS.
YIKES!

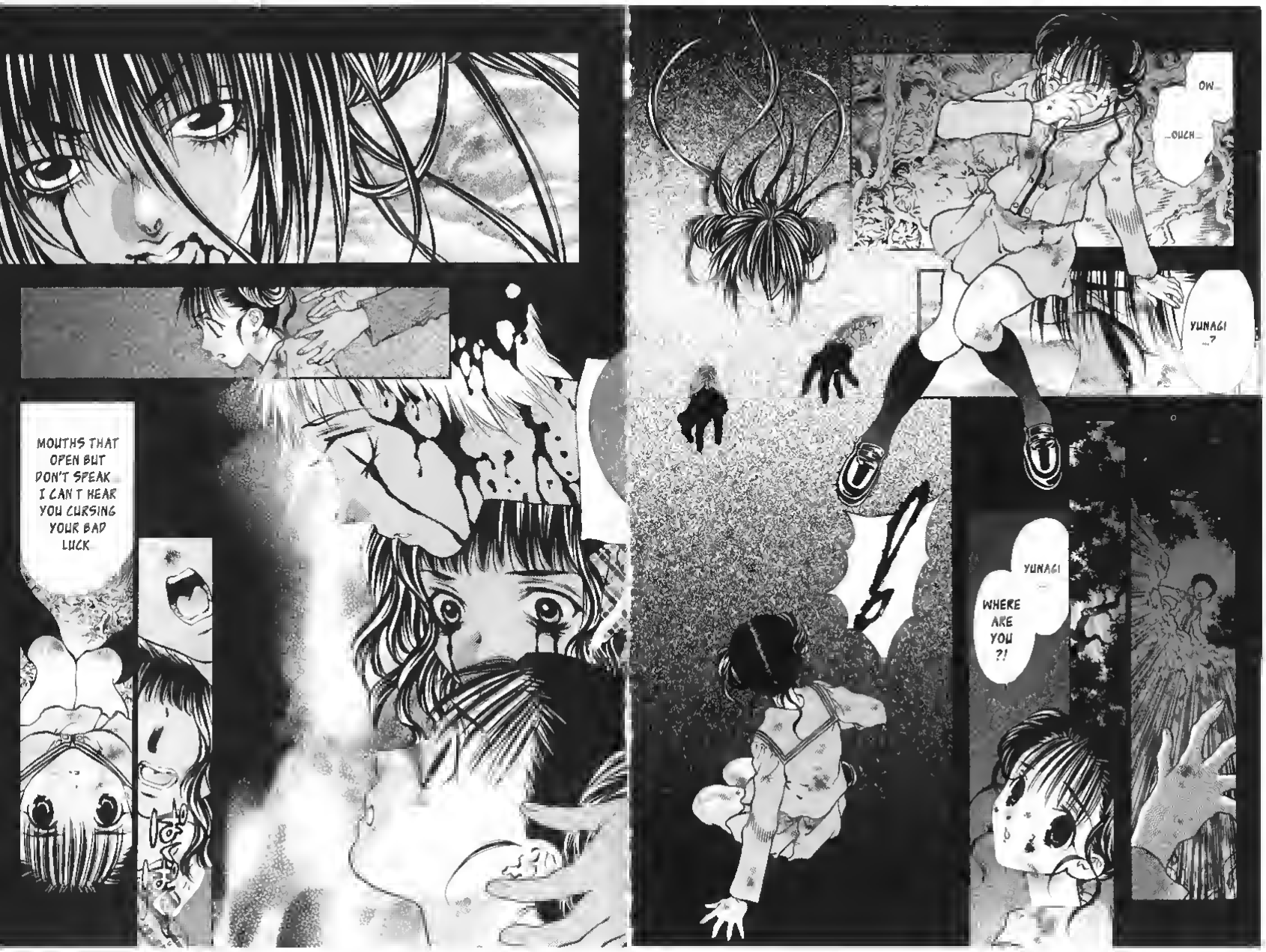
WILL NOT LET YOU CLOSE YOUR OPEN EYES.
AGG HH!!
AGH!
WILL NOT LET YOU LOWER YOUR RAISED LEG.

AAAGGHH!!
AAAGHHH!!
AAGH!
AKIO! YORIKO ...!
HELP ME!!

DESTROY
SOU AKA.

WILL NOT LET YOU EVER ESCAPE THE CLAWS DUG IN.
DADDY, YOU'RE AMAZING!
OH DARLING.
AKIO!
YORIKO!

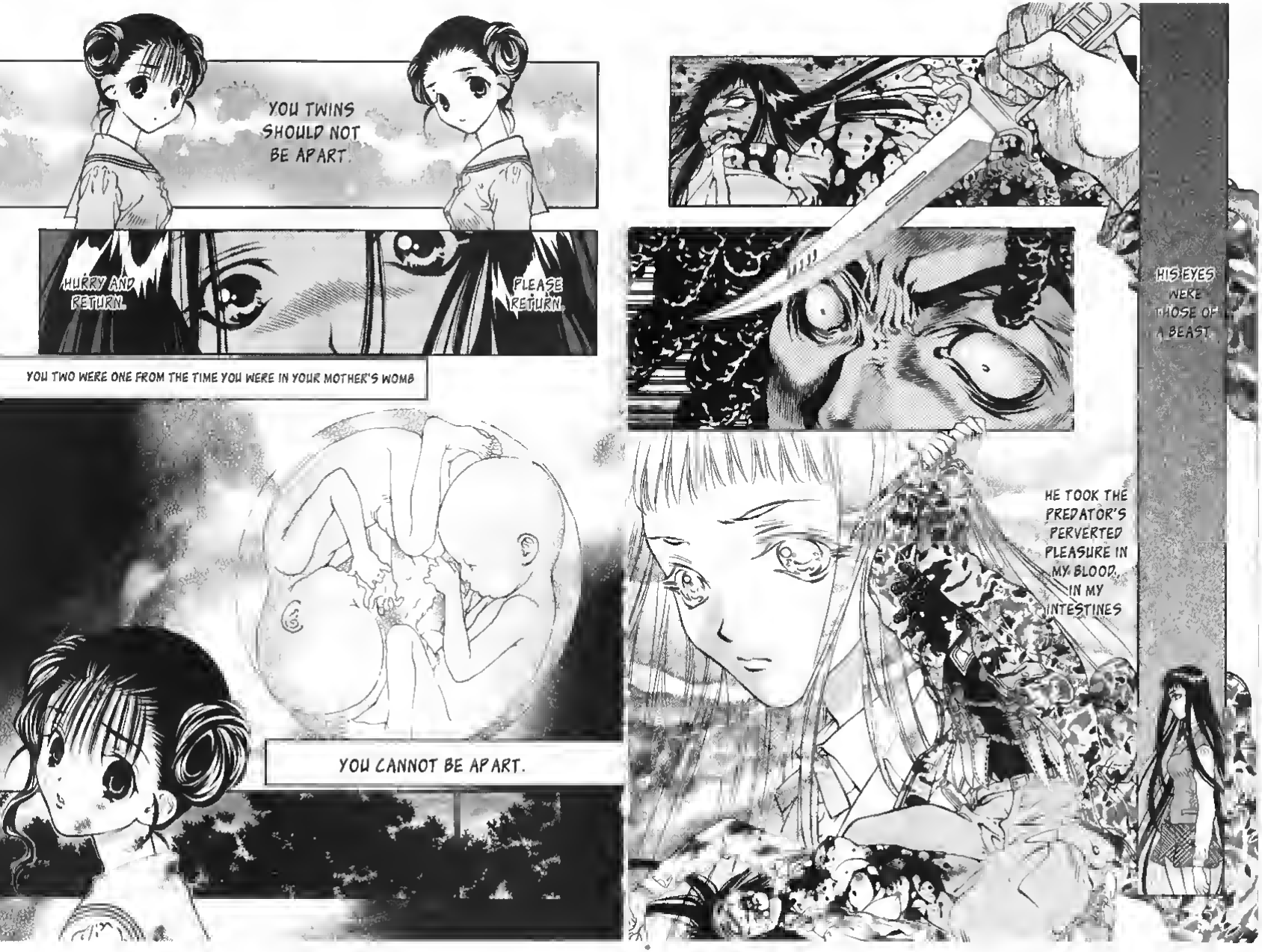

WILL NOT FORGIVE
WILL CATCH YOU.
WILL NOT LET GO
WILL DRAG YOU.
PULL YOU APART
EAT YOU UP
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
ぎぬ ぎぬ
ぱっ!


MOUTHS THAT OPEN BUT DON'T SPEAK I CAN'T HEAR YOU CURSING YOUR BAD LUCK
OW...
...OUCH...
YUNAGI ...?
YUNAGI ... WHERE ARE YOU ?!

第17話
warning(警告)

BUT I'M NOT SCARED OF YOU ANYMORE
I KNOW NOW THAT PEOPLE WHO ARE STILL ALIVE...
...ARE FAR MORE EVIL
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

第16話／完


YOU TWINS SHOULD NOT BE APART.
HURRY AND RETURN.
PLEASE RETURN.
YOU TWO WERE ONE FROM THE TIME YOU WERE IN YOUR MOTHER'S WOMB
YOU CANNOT BE APART.
HIS EYES WERE THOSE OF A BEAST.
HE TOOK THE PREDATOR'S PERVERTED PLEASURE IN MY BLOOD, IN MY INTESTINES

...AND RUN FROM THAT SHALLOW, SELFISH WITCH.

I WON'T BE THE ONLY ONE!!
I WON'T BE THE ONLY ONE...
UKG...

I DON'T WANT TO BE THE ONLY ONE TO DIE ..
WHY SHOULD I BE... .. THE ONLY ONE TO SUFFER?
MIDORI KUSANAGI?!

HUNTER?
HA!
WE SHOULDN'T BE FIGHTING EACH OTHER NOW
WE OUGHT TO RUN AWAY.
WHO CARES ABOUT THOSE IDIOTS?! THEY DON'T HAVE THE COURAGE TO KILL US ANYWAY
THERE MIGHT BE A SCARY HUNTER AFTER US
OR...FROM MISGUIDED, SEETHING HATRED.
THE BAD ONES ARE THOSE WHO PRETENDED TO BE MY FRIENDS... THEN BEAT ME UP. YOU'RE LIKE THAT TOO, AREN'T YOU?

AGH!
KOFF KOFF
KOFF
FROM HER WILL TO LIVE?
WHERE DID SHE GET ALL THIS POWER?

THERE'S A SERIAL KILLER OUT HERE IN THE MOUNTAINS!
?
HE'S COMING!

EVERYONE'S BEEN KILLED...
NO... YOU'RE WRONG.

HURRY, LET'S GO! WE HAVE TO RUN AWAY...
YOU'RE JUST PRETENDING NOW YOU'RE NOT MY FRIEND.
WE NEED TO GET AWAY FROM HERE QUICKLY!
I WON'T! IT'S NOT LIKE THAT...
YOU PLAN TO LEAVE ME HERE I KNOW IT.
BUT I'M NOT GOING TO DIE ALONE...
I'D RATHER DIE HERE WITH YOU!

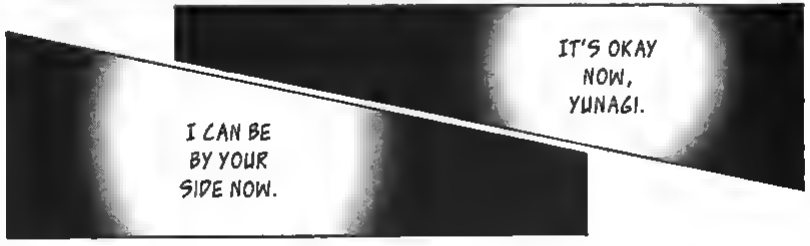
I AM A WITCH...
...WHO CURSES THE FUTURE OF OTHERS WITH MY TAROT CARDS.

AH ..
AH...
AH...
WITHOUT THE CARDS...
PLEASE.
DON'T LEAVE ME HERE.
...I AM JUST A CLUMP OF MEAT.

HURRY, MISS KUSANAGI!
PLEASE, PLEASE TELL ME, MISS KIKIYU! WHERE IS EVERYONE?
YAAAAGGGGHHHH!

MISS KUSANAGI?
HEH... HA HA HA...
I'M SO HAPPY ..
...THAT I'M NOT GOING TO DIE ALONE.

THANK YOU!
?
WE'LL BE OKAY! BELIEVE IN ME!
HEE HEE...



AND EVERYTHING WILL BE FINE

第18話
wail(嘆き悲しみ)

YES, YUNAGI.
NOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!
I'M HERE WITH YOU, WHERE I BE-LONG
YOU CAN SEE ME, RIGHT?

第17話／完

IT WAS REALLY SCARY, BUT WE COULDN'T RUN AWAY.
KYAH!!
DISAPPEAR!
GO AWAY!
AH! TOGETHER WE WERE STRONG

LET'S PLAY...
YUNAGI
NAGISA
I ALWAYS HEARD A VOICE WHEN I WAS ALONE.
WHEN I WAS WITH NAGISA, I COULD SEE, TOO.
LET'S PLAY...

NAGISA...
DON'T WORRY. I'LL BE WITH YOU FOREVER NOW...
NAGISA IS DEAD! SHE WAS KILLED.

DID YOU HEAR SOMETHING? A SPIRIT?
IS SOMEONE THERE?
ALONE TOGETHER WE SHARED THE HORROR, THE SECRET-- ME AND MY OTHER HALF.

BUT YUNAGI, NOW I CAN HELP YOU.
IT WAS HIM! HE CUT HER UP!!
MY POOR NAGISA...
I'M SORRY I DIDN'T FEEL THE PAIN WITH YOU
IT HURT, DIDN'T IT? OH, NAGISA.
NOW THAT I'M HERE, I CAN

HOW DARE
HOW DARE HE
WAIT UP!
WAIT! YOU'RE GOING TO GET LOST!
!!!
LET ME GO!!

I'LL NEVER FORGIVE HIM...
HOW DARE HE KILL MY NAGI-SA!
SO FIND A GHOST WHO KNOWS THE WAY HOME AND SAVE YOURSELF.

I'LL BRING HER BACK!
SNAP OUT OF IT! WAIT FOR US.
LET'S GO, TOO! THOSE TWINS ARE OUR LAST HOPE!
...HER AS A WITCH?
I DON'T GET IT EITHER.
WHAT HAPPENED, TETSUBE!?
JUST NOW, WAS THAT..

THE FIRE AT SCHOOL TWO YEARS AGO
MRS...
I WAS THE ONLY ONE WITHOUT A SCRATCH OR BURN. NO ONE KNEW WHY
I KNOW BECAUSE I'VE SEEN IT.
PEOPLE CAN GO CRAZY FROM GRIEF.
YOU WERE IN THE ROOM WITH THEM HOW COME YOU'RE SAFE. HOW COME YOU'RE ALIVE!?

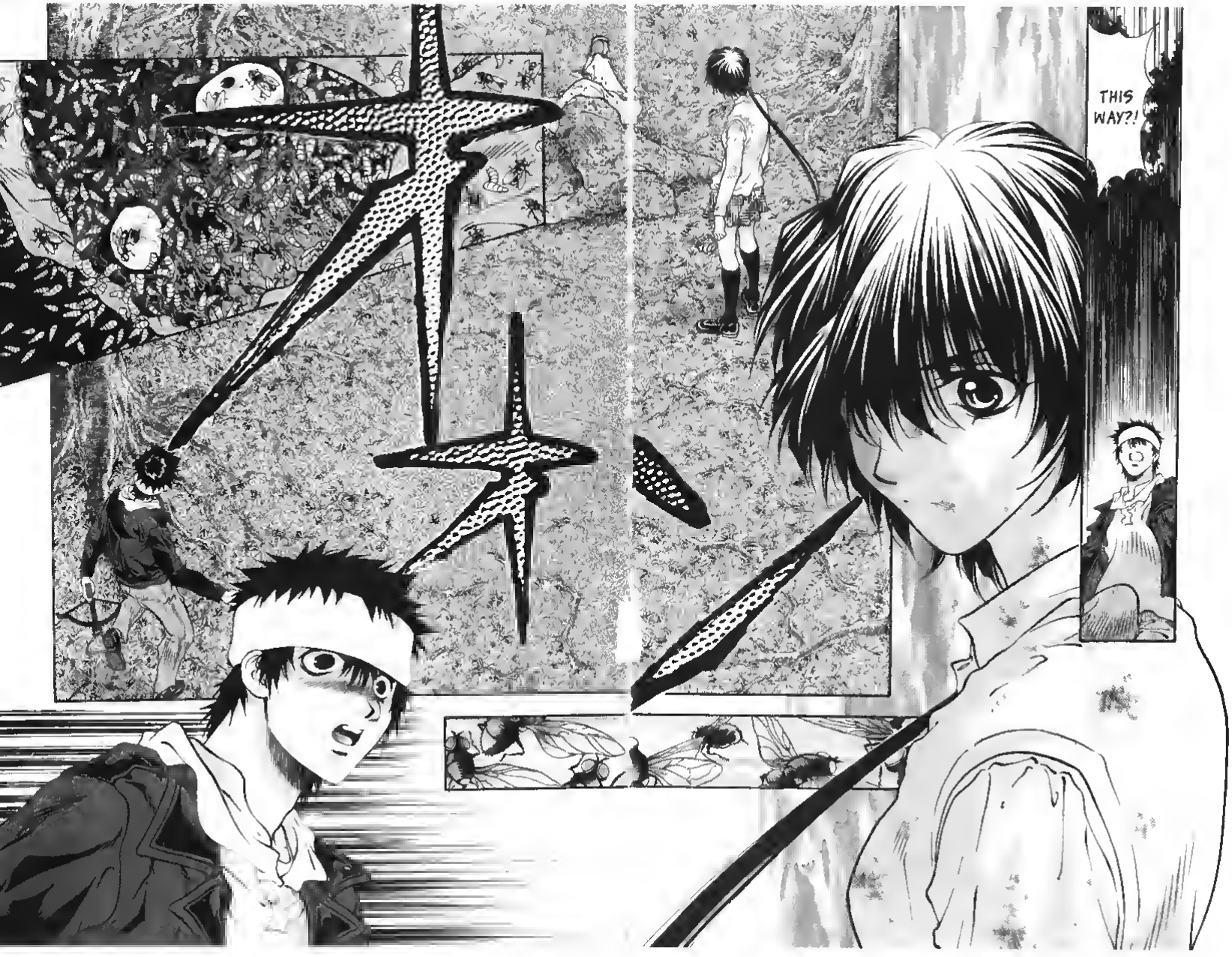
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO PULL IN ALL OF THE GHOSTS ON OUR SIDE!
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
HER SISTER WAS KILLED.
IT'S HARD WHEN EVEN AN ACQUAINTANCE DIES

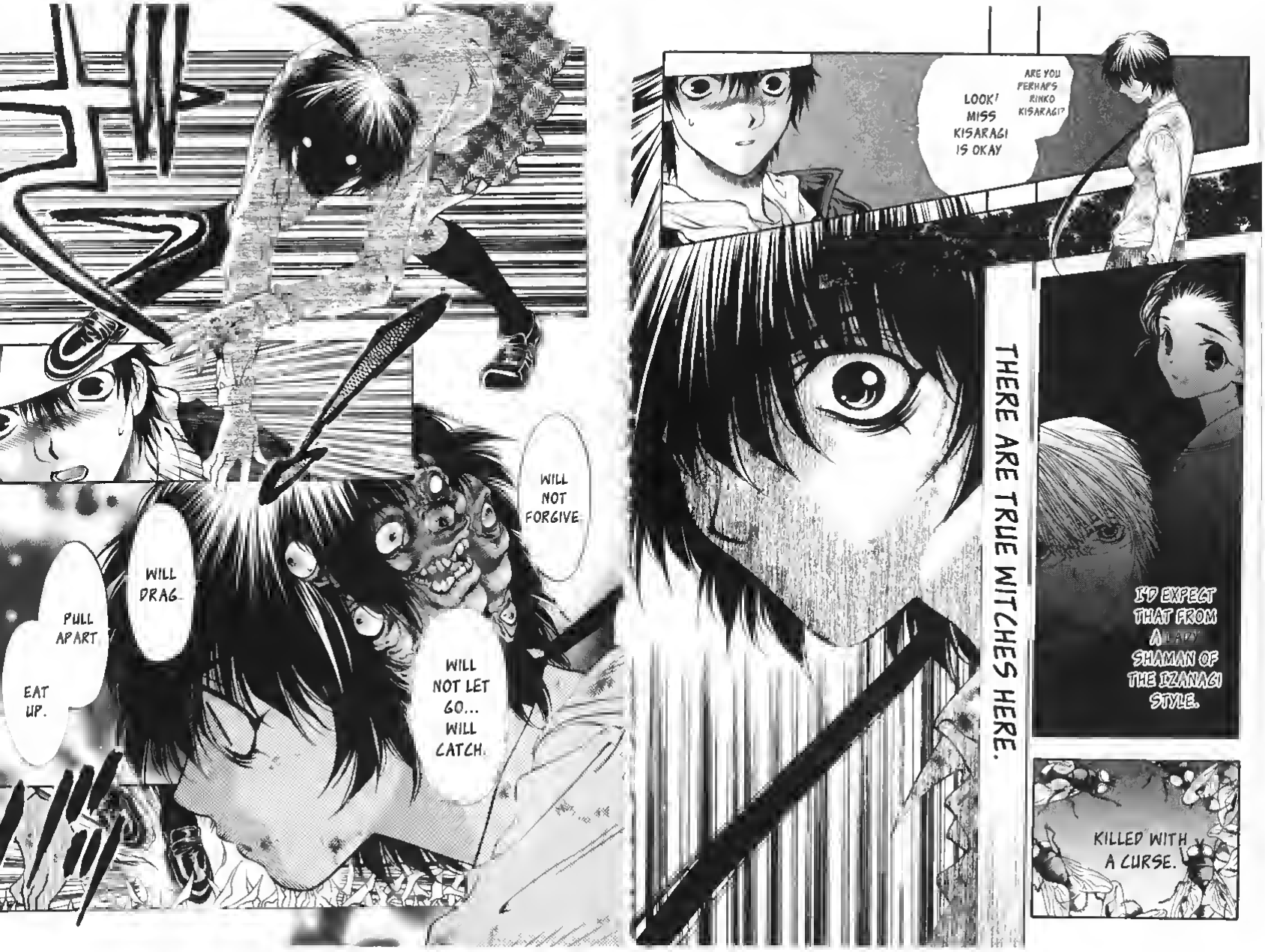
WHAT WAS THAT LAST THING SHE SAID ...?
...THEY GO CRAZY.
HOW DARE HE

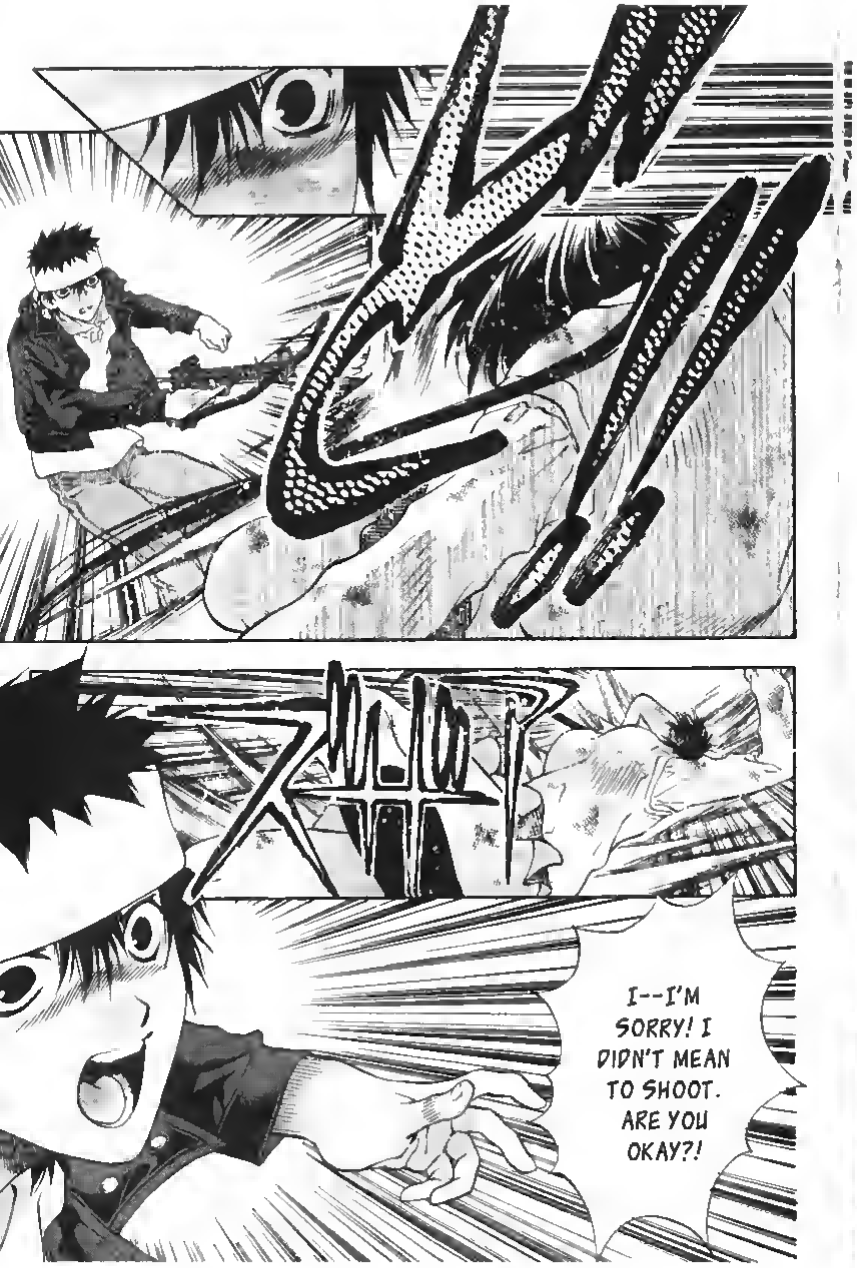
YOU KILLED HER!!
LOVE TURNS TO GRIEF AND THEN TO MADNESS...
GIVE ME BACK MY DAUGHTER
YOU SHOULD'VE DIED INSTEAD
SLOWLY...
MURDEROUS MADNESS!
...OR SOMETIMES SUDDENLY...

HEY, WHERE ARE YOU!?
A ROTTING SMELL?
UGH?!
IT MIGHT BE BEST TO JUST LEAVE NOW...

WHAT IF THEY KNOW HOW TO FIGHT?
WITCHES HUNTED BY KILLERS...
...IN A SICK GAME OF MURDER.
BUT WHAT IF THE WITCHES TURN AGAINST THE HUNTERS?
THEN IT'S NOT A WITCH HUNT... IT'S WAR!!


THIS WAY?!


LOOK! MISS KISARAGI IS OKAY
ARE YOU PERHAPS RINKO KISARAGI?
I'D EXPECT THAT FROM A LADY SHAMAN OF THE IZANAGI STYLE.
THERE ARE TRUE WITCHES HERE.
KILLED WITH A CURSE.
WILL NOT FORGIVE.
WILL DRAG.
PULL APART
EAT UP.
WILL NOT LET GO... WILL CATCH.


I--I'M SORRY! I DIDN'T MEAN TO SHOOT. ARE YOU OKAY?!

AM I SUPPOSED TO HUNT OR PROTECT?

第19話
waver(ためらい)

第18話／完

I CAN SEE THAT HE HAS NO INTENTION OF KILLING ME
I'M LOOKING FOR A LOST TWIN. I WAS JUST WITH YOUR OTHER FRIENDS!
ARE-- ARE YOU OKAY?!
I'M NOT A HUNTER, I'M DIFFERENT

IN OUR HOUSE WE CALL CASTING OF SPELLS "REVERSED FORMULA" THE WORK WE DO IN IZANAGI-STYLE IS NOT CASTING SPELLS OR RETURNING SPELLS. IT IS RE-CELEBRATING A SPELL.
LISTEN, RINKO.
IF YOU USE THE LAW OF REVERSED FORMULA AND SUMMON A GOD, YOU WILL BE PUNISHED
NO MATTER HOW MUCH THEY OFFER TO PAY, YOU CANNOT CAST A SPELL
BE PREPARED, RINKO.

URG...
HUH?
R-R-R-RUN...
IT'S TRUE. PLEASE BELIEVE ME. THERE'S A KILLER ON THE LOOSE WHO'S WAY MORE DANGEROUS THAN ME!!
I KNOW HE'S NOT LYING EITHER
BUT MY BODY WON'T LISTEN TO ME!!
H-HURRY--! HURRY UP AND RUN AWAY FROM ME!!

IT...IT DIDN'T HIT HER, RIGHT?
SHE'S OKAY, RIGHT?
RUN WHILE YOU CAN...
I'M CURSED BY SPIRITS NOW. AND I'M BANEFUL!
DON'T TOUCH ME.

I'M THE PREY!
AND I'M NOT THE HUNTER ANY-MORE!

YEOW ...
THIS IS THE KIND OF WITCH SHE IS?

SHE'S NOT EVEN OF THIS WORLD
I CAN'T STOP HER. NO WAY I CAN.

SO THE HUNTERS ARE THE VICTIMS NOW.
ER
かはぁ…っ

ドン

GAAH!
AAGH!
AND I CAN'T BELIEVE LOWLY SPIRITS ARE ABLE TO CURSE YOU

UGH!
AAGGHHHH!
YOU'RE CURSING THE WRONG ONE, LADY SHAMAN

THERE SHOULD BE A CHANT THAT ENDS ALL SPELLS
SAY IT, RINKO! BLOW AWAY ALL OF THE SPIRITS!!
URG ...

CURSES WILL RETURN TO THE PLACE THAT TOUDO JOMON PUT ASIDE
GODS OF EVIL AND SICKNESS TO THE LAND THAT WITHERED TREES CALL HOME
GODS WILL RETURN TO THE SHRINES AND BUDDHAS TO THE SANCTUMS GOD OF THE MOUNTAIN TO THE MOUNTAIN, GOD OF WATER TO THE RIVER

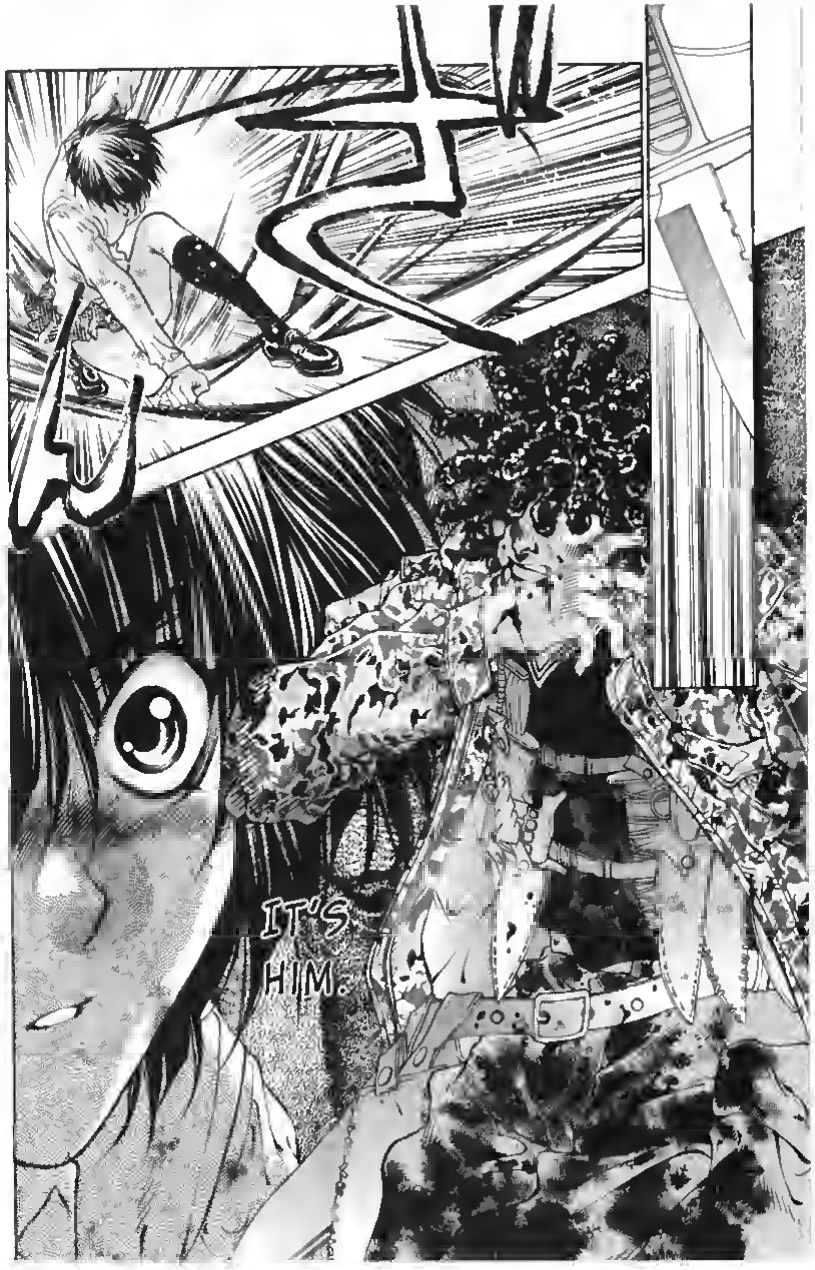
I NEED TO CURE HIM FIRST.
COME ON LADY SHAMAN!
HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

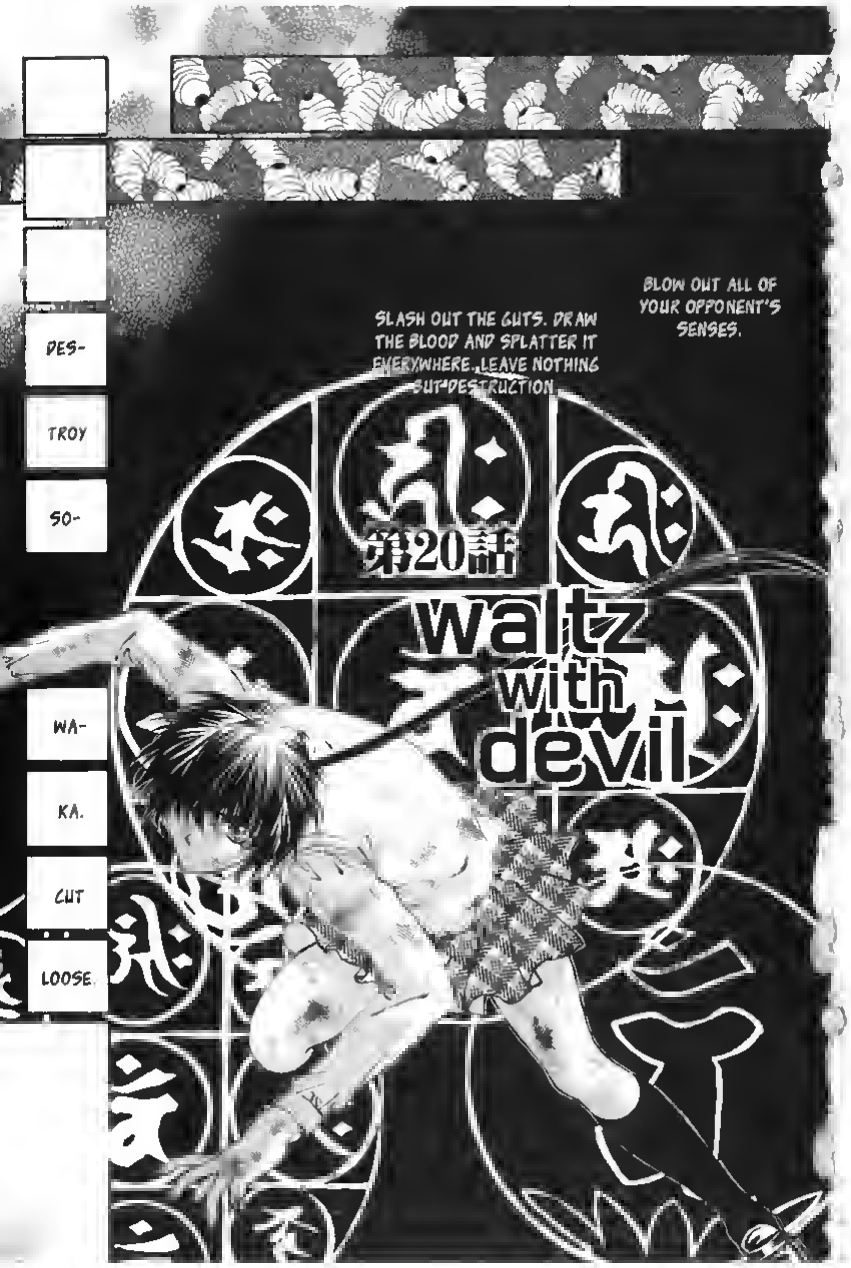
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU HAVE TO RUN AWAY NOW

DON'T COME NEAR ME!
HURRY, RINKO! HURRY AND REVERSE THE CURSE ON YOU!!
GODS WILL RETURN TO THE SHRINES AND BUDDHAS TO THE SANCTUMS
GOD OF THE MOUNTAIN TO THE MOUNTAIN, GOD OF WATER TO THE RIVER
URG!

WHAT?
HEY!
MY CURSE IS OUR ONLY HOPE!!

HE'S THE ONE WHO KILLED CHIAKI KIRIYU!!
NO NEED TO CONFIRM IT! HE REEKS WITH MADNESS...
...AND WITH MURDEROUS INTENT
THE SMELL OF BLOOD...


IT'S HIM.


DES-
TROY
SO-
WA-
KA.
CUT
LOOSE.
SLASH OUT THE GUTS. DRAW THE BLOOD AND SPLATTER IT EVERYWHERE. LEAVE NOTHING BUT DESTRUCTION.
BLOW OUT ALL OF YOUR OPPONENT'S SENSES.
第20話
waltz with devil

I'LL USE THIS TO CURSE HIM!!
ALONG WITH THE FALLEN GODS!
I WON'T WAVER ANYMORE.
第19話／完

HURRY AND GET AWAY FROM ME!!
I...
I DIDN'T THINK THERE WOULD REALLY BE WITCHES. I JUST WANTED TO SAVE SOME GIRLS FROM A CRAZY KILLER...
WAIT!
BUT IF THE WITCHES ARE WORTH SAVING...!!

OR DO YOU WANT TO STAY HERE?
YOU DON'T HAVE A REASON TO FIGHT AFTER ALL.
COME ON, TETSUBE!!
.....

YES, I'LL DO IT.
I'LL PROTECT YOU.
...NO MATTER WHAT.
ONCE YOU DECIDE, YOU'D BETTER PREPARE.
THIS IS A BATTLE BETWEEN WITCHES AND DEMONS

YOU MUST NOT DO THIS, RINKO.
YES, I MUST.
OVER THERE!!
WHAT NEXT?
I MUST KILL THIS MAN, NO MATTER WHAT.
WHATEVER DEMON WE'RE UP AGAINST.

HEH...
HA HA HA HA HA HA HA HA !!

THIS MAN, NO MATTER WHAT...
Mrm Mrm Mmh!
EAT HIM UP
I WILL CATCH HIM.
DRAG HIM...
I WON'T FORGIVE
I WON'T LET GO
...PULL HIM APART.

THEY'RE FIGHTING SO CLOSE, RINKO'S BOUND TO GET HURT!! CAN YOU HIT HIM!?
THEY'RE MOVING TOO FAST! I CAN'T AIM!
I CAN HEAR HER...
DAMN IT!

DEMONIC SPIRITS DISPERSE AND DETERIORATE.

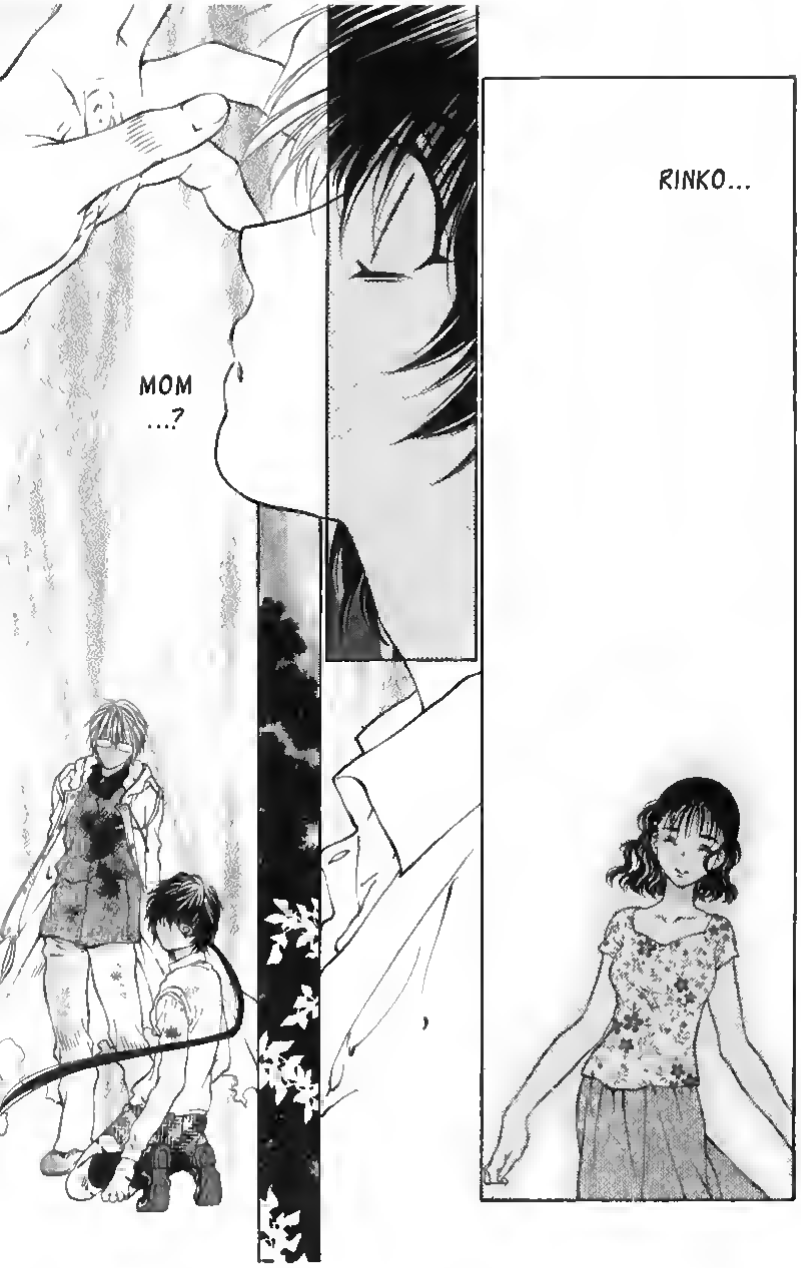
KILL ME! KILL ME NOW!!
SHE'S JUST STANDING THERE! WHY DOESN'T SHE--
AGH!
YAAAGHHH!

は
は
HEH.
HEH HEH
HEH
HEE HEE.
HEH HEH.

IF I'M GOING TO BE SWALLOWED UP BY THE FALLEN GODS, THEN I'D RATHER DIE!
OH!
DON'T! IF YOU TOUCH HER...

AND BUDDHAS TO THE SANCTUMS
GOD OF THE MOUNTAIN TO THE MOUNTAIN, GOD OF WATER TO THE RIVER GODS OF EVIL AND SICKNESS TO THE LAND THAT WITHERED TREES CALL HOME
CURSES WILL RETURN TO THE PLACE THAT TOUDO JOMON PUT ASIDE.
I ASK ALL GODS TO RETURN BEYOND THE MOUNTAINS!!

MAKOTO!!
AGH
YAAGH!
YEAGGGHHH!
GODS WILL... RETURN TO THE SHRINES...


MOM
...?
RINKO...

HOW HE CAN CALM THE FALLEN GODS WITHOUT FORMING A MUDRA OR ASKING FORGIVENESS?!
IS THAT HOW IT IS?
Makoto Hiragaka.
I'M A PROFESSIONAL DETECTIVE. IF I SET MY MIND TO IT, I CAN FIND OUT ANYTHING.
OUT OF THE WAY, LADY SHAMAN.
The son of a witch who contracted with Pursan, the emperor of hell who knows all secrets on this earth.

THE BUGS...ALL THE BUGS ARE GONE
HOW..
HUH?
HOW DO YOU KNOW AN IZANAGI-STYLE CHANT?
YOU'RE ASKING QUESTIONS BEFORE YOU THANK ME?
THAT'S A CHANT TO CALM GODS, AND IT'S ONLY PRACTICED IN MY GRANDFATHER'S VILLAGE, IN KOCHI PREFECTURE

第21話
wrongful soul

HE'S STILL ALIVE?!
FOR NOW. WE'LL SEE FOR HOW MUCH LONGER!
第20話 完

WITCHES ARE RARELY EVER ARMED.
THE WITCH BLOOD SCATTERED ALL OVER THIS AREA IS MY WEAPON.
BUT DON'T PUT ME ON WITCH TRIAL FOR THIS.

YOU'RE FIGHTING HIM WITH NO WEAPONS?
YOU HAD NO WEAPONS, EITHER.

IT'S TIME TO FEED.
THE BEASTS THAT SLEEP UNDER-GROUND...
...WAKE UP ONCE AGAIN...

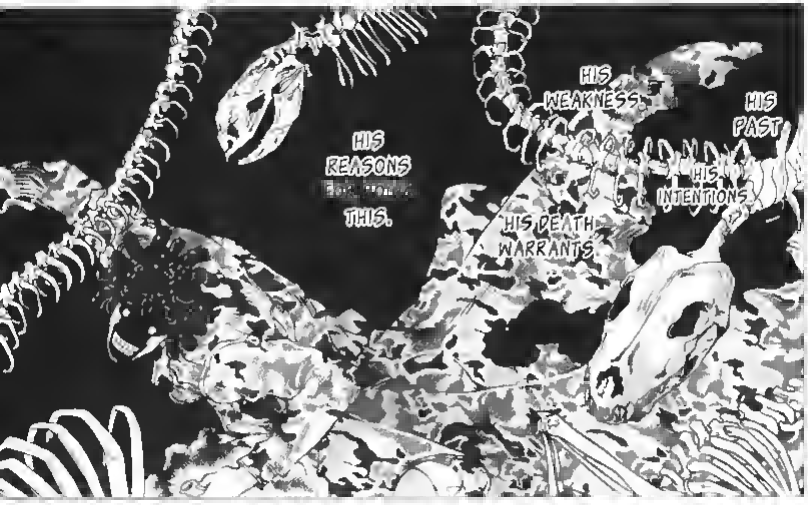
A CURSE? A SPELL?
NO, IT'S WITCHCRAFT THAT USES BLOOD...
...AS ONLY A TRULY FEARSOME WITCH CAN DO.

AGH!
GAGH!
AAAARGHH!

HE SHOULD'VE LOST A LOT OF BLOOD BY NOW. I SHOT HIM IN THE LEG TOO.
WHY ISN'T HE GETTING WEAKER?
COME ON! LET'S LEAVE WHILE WE STILL CAN!
NOT YET. I NEED TO TOUCH HIM AND FIND HIS WEAK POINT.
BUT THERE'S NO WAY HE COULD'VE SURVIVED THAT!!
YOU'RE JUMPING TO CONCLUSIONS STOP AND THINK ABOUT IT.
!?
YES... THAT'S TRUE

SEARCH HARD ..

I'LL HAVE TO SEARCH.



AND HE HAS THE TWO CHARMS OF MARS TATTOOED ON HIS BODY!!
The two sigils of Mars (The planet of the sanctioning sword of God) hold the power to heal illness and injuries
HE'S ALL HEALED?!
WHAT DOES THAT MEAN!?
HE'S A PAWN OF THE WITCH WHO PLANNED THIS WHOLE WITCH HUNT!

MY BODY'S BEEN CURSED FOR TWO YEARS. BUT NOW THIS BODY IS GOING TO HELP HIM.
BUT IT WAS HIM.
YOU COULD DIE...
IT WAS MAKOTO WHO GAVE ME LIFE.
I DIED TWO YEARS AGO.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! YOU'LL ONLY GET IN THE WAY!
LET ME GO!
I SAID I WOULD STAY BY HIS SIDE. I'M GOING TO BE HIS SHIELD.
?!

...THE FLESH.
KILL.
THE BLOOD.
SLASH..
TEAR APART.
THE BONES
GOUGE. FEAST UPON.
KNIFE.

NOW, MAKOTO!!

IT'S USELESS...
HIS MIND'S DISTORTED.
HE HAS NO FEAR...AND HE TAKES NO PLEASURE CUTTING UP HIS PREY
BUT HE'LL RISE TO KILL AND RISE TO KILL AGAIN--ENDLESSLY!

MAHIRO, GET AWAY!
AAAGGHHH!
DID YOU GET HIS WEAKNESS?

YUNAGI MIDO... WHERE ARE YOU!?
PLEASE FIND ME, MISTER DETECTIVE.
WHO--!?
SO EVERY LIVING THING IS MERELY PREY TO HIM.
AND HIS BODY IS PRACTICALLY IMMORTAL.
GIVE UP. FIND IT.
FIND THE THING HE FEARS!!
YOU JUST HAVE TO USE THE DEAD ONES' GRUDGES AGAINST HIM.

I SEE NOW...YOU CAN SHOW HIM THE FACES OF THE VICTIMS HE'S KILLED.
THANK YOU, MISTER DETECTIVE.

THAT WAY!!

NOW I CAN AVENGE NAGISA...

第22話
widow

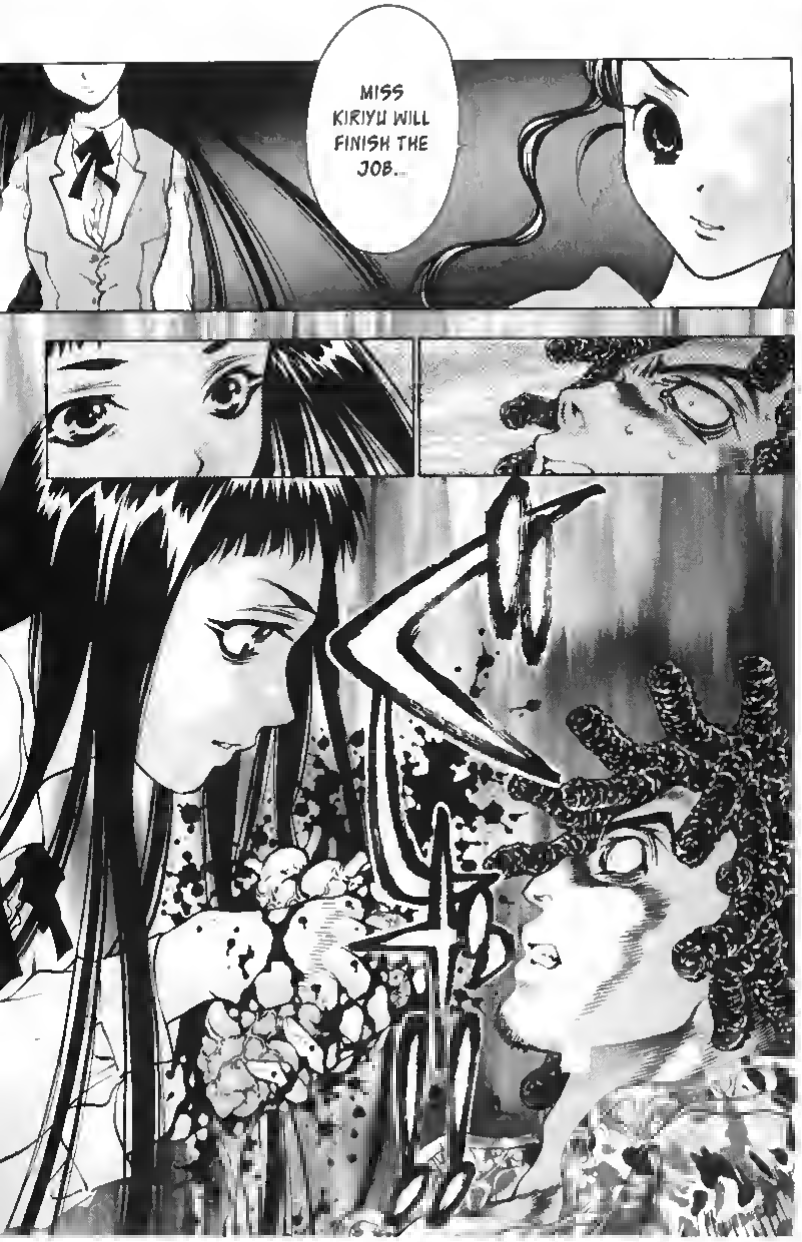
YOU HAVE TO MAKE HIM SUFFER FIRST
NOT YET, SPIRITS, NOT YET
THEN YOU CAN CURSE HIM TO DEATH
DARE YOU GIVE ME AGONY?
THIS PAIN, THIS TORMENT...

第21話／完

HUH.
ARG
AAGHH
GAH
HEH.
HEH.
HEH.
DIG OUT HIS EYEBALLS
CRACK HIS BONES
RIP HIS SKIN
TEAR OUT HIS INSIDES
EAT UP HIS FLESH

THEY DIDN'T ONLY HEAR THEM
OR SEE THEM
THEY HAD THE POWER TO MAKE SPIRITS OBEY!!
DON'T COME CLOSER! DISAPPEAR!!

WHAT'S GOING ON?
WHA--? WHAT IS THIS ABOUT?
HOW THE TWINS KEPT THEIR SANITY WHILE SEEING AND HEARING SPIRITS...
I SHOULD'VE REALIZED THIS SOONER


MISS KIRIYU WILL FINISH THE JOB...

THE DEAD SPIRITS ARE ALL LOYAL SERVANTS TO THE TWINS!!
YOU CAN STOP NOW, EVERYONE

IT'S OVER... RIGHT, NAGISA?
NO.

NO, I FOUND YOU... CALLING UPON WITCH POWER WITH YOUR BLOOD
I FOUND YOU. YOU WITCH!
YOU ARE THE ONE AND ONLY TRUE WITCH.

WHAT DID YOU SAY?
THERE'S ONE MORE WITCH-- THE ONE WHO PLANNED THIS WITCH HUNT

ONLY A MOTHER WILL UNDERSTAND.

MEN AND YOUNG GIRLS CAN NEVER COMPREHEND.

NO ONE CAN UNDERSTAND MY FEELINGS.

WHAT THE HELL'S WRONG WITH YOU!? HOW MANY DIED BECAUSE OF--
LOOK AT MY PAST
AT THE P... I DESCENDED INTO DARKNESS...
LOOK INSIDE ME AND SEE

THOSE ARE NOT CONTRAC-TIONS
BUT I'M HAVING CONTRAC-TIONS...
THE BABY'S HEART STOPPED BEATING?
THAT'S... NOT POSSIBLE
IT'S NOT, IT'S NOT, IT'S NOT...
YOUR BODY IS REJECTING THE FOREIGN SUBSTANCE TRYING TO PUSH IT OUT

I HEAR HE KNEW THAT HE WAS TERMINAL.
TOO BAD ABOUT THE HUSBAND
BUT I'M FINE... HAPPY. I'M A WIDOW, BUT I'LL CARRY ON HIS LIFE WITH HIS BABY.
WHAT?

IT'S SAD. BUT THIS IS THE BEST WAY. IF IT'S TOO MUCH OF A STRUGGLE, THOUGH, WE CAN DISMEMBER IT TO HELP DELIVERY.
PLEASE DON'T.
THE PAIN DOESN'T MATTER. IF I CAN FEEL IT, I CAN KEEP YOU. PLEASE DON'T GO!
PLEASE... DON'T GO! STAY HERE WITH MOMMY!!
THEN PUSH! YOUR CERVIX IS FULLY DILATED!!

NO, BECAUSE IT IS DEAD.
EVEN THOUGH IT IS DEAD?
AND NOW I HAVE TO GIVE BIRTH
I'M NOT GIVING BIRTH, I'M JUST PUSHING IT OUT OF MY BODY...
THE BABY IS DEAD. OF COURSE IT'S COLD.
MY STOMACH IS COLD..

CONGRATULATIONS
IT'S A BOY.
YOU MUST BE SO HAPPY
NO.
NO.
NO.

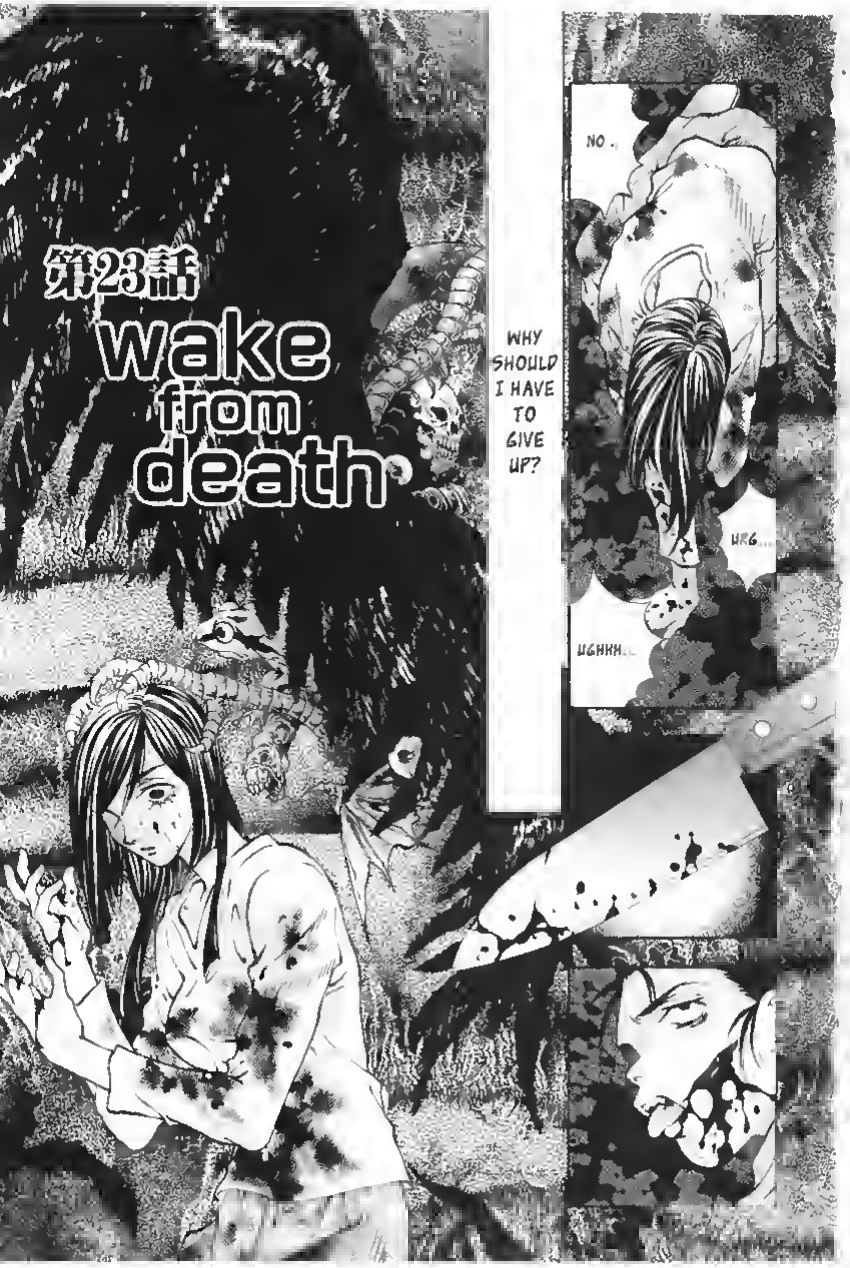
THERE!! IT'S OUT!
I HEAR HER! SHE'S ALIVE!!
THAT'S FROM NEXT DOOR
OH, GOD...! IT'S A MIRACLE!

I HATE THEM!!
I CAN'T FORGIVE THEM!!
THE RESENTMENT!!
THE SADNESS!!
THE GRIEF!!
WHO DO I HATE!?
ALL THE ONES WHO GO ON LIVING AND LAUGHING.

INSTEAD I BUY A TINY CASKET AND URN!!
I WAS WONDERING WHAT TO BUY HER FIRST WHEN SHE WAS BORN.
THERE ARE STILL CHARGES FOR THE HOSPITAL STAY AND PROCEDURES, OF COURSE YOU MAY GET SOME FINANCIAL HELP DOWN AT CITY HALL
THE BODY IS BEING STORED IN A REFRIGERATION UNIT FOR NOW, BUT YOU'LL NEED TO HURRY UP WITH THE PAPERWORK AND PLANS FOR CREMATION.
THIS IS MEDICINE TO STOP YOUR MILK.
I THOUGHT OF CRIBS AND TOYS.
YOU'LL HAVE TO FOLLOW UP WITH THE DOCTOR IN A MONTH
A DRESS TO WEAR WHEN LEAVING THE HOSPITAL

...BY...
...AT ALL...
...ANY ONE ..

YOU SHOULD'VE SEEN THIS ONE PATIENT
MY FEELINGS..
...CAN NEVER _
NO... BUT I'VE SEEN HER SOMEWHERE
HEY— IS THAT SOMEONE YOU KNOW?
.. BE UNDER-STOOD


第23話
wake from death
NO..
WHY SHOULD I HAVE TO GIVE UP?
URG...
UGHHH...

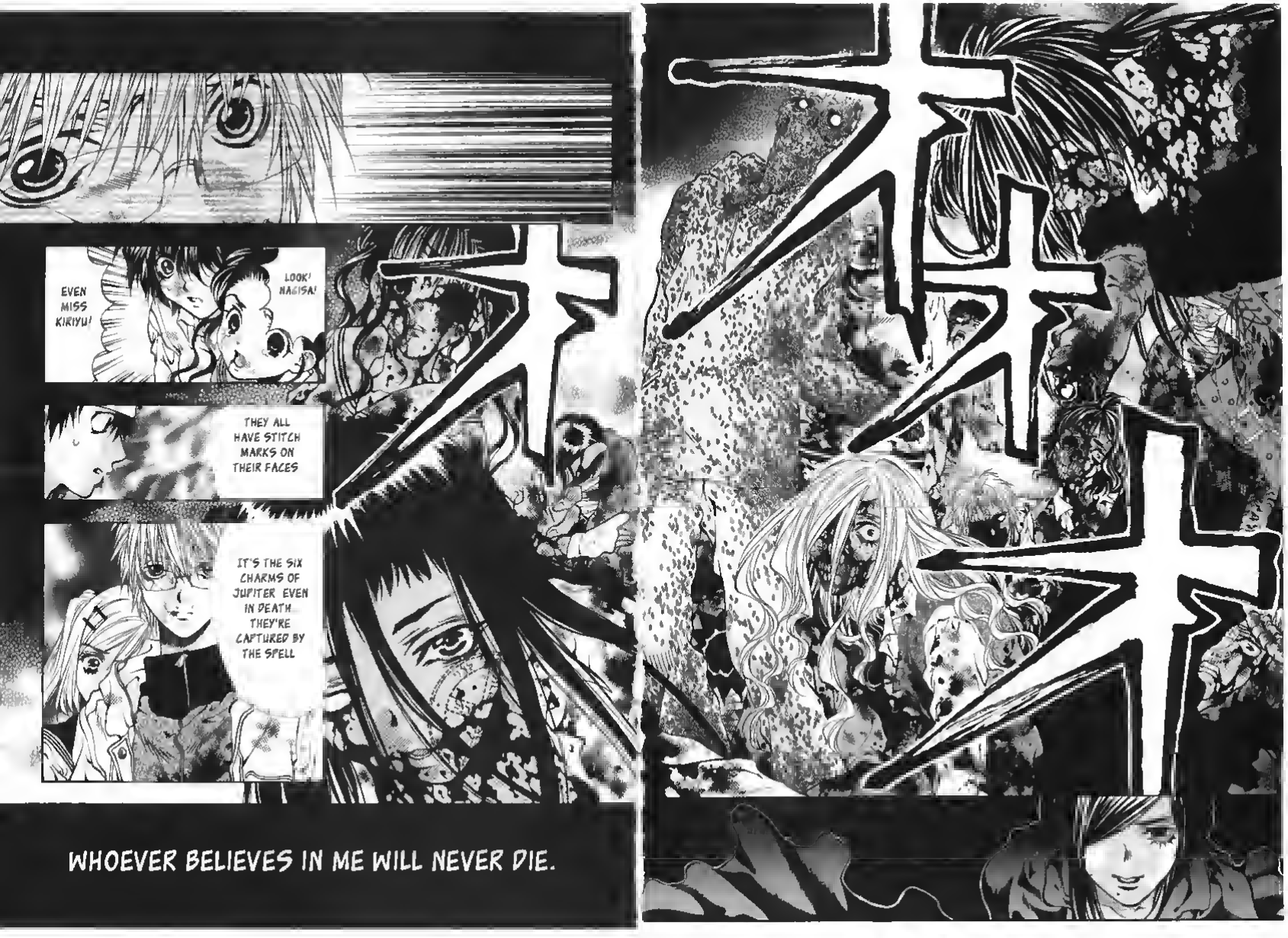
AAAGGGHHHHHH!
第22話／完

ARE YOU OKAY, MAKOTO?
DEMON BIFRONS .. THE DUKE OF HELL WHOSE POWER CONTROLS CORPSES!!
WAS IT YOU WHO CAST CHARMS ON HIM?! ANSWER ME!

AND AWAKENED AS A WITCH.
THAT'S RIGHT.
THERE'S STILL HOPE.
THIS SCATTERED BLOOD WILL SHOW ME THE WAY!!
IT WAS THEN I WAS FOUND BY THE DEMON BIFRONS

HE WORSHIPPED ME--AND WORKED FOR ME..
...TO FIND THE TRUE WITCH AMONG WITCHES.
I'LL LET HIM REST IN PEACE...
?!

OH.
THAT MAN WAS THE ONLY WITNESS TO MY FIRST MURDER.
UH...
HE WAS MESMERIZED BY IT.


EVEN MISS KIRIYU!
LOOK! HAGISA!
THEY ALL HAVE STITCH MARKS ON THEIR FACES
IT'S THE SIX CHARMS OF JUPITER. EVEN IN DEATH... THEY'RE CAPTURED BY THE SPELL
WHOEVER BELIEVES IN ME WILL NEVER DIE.

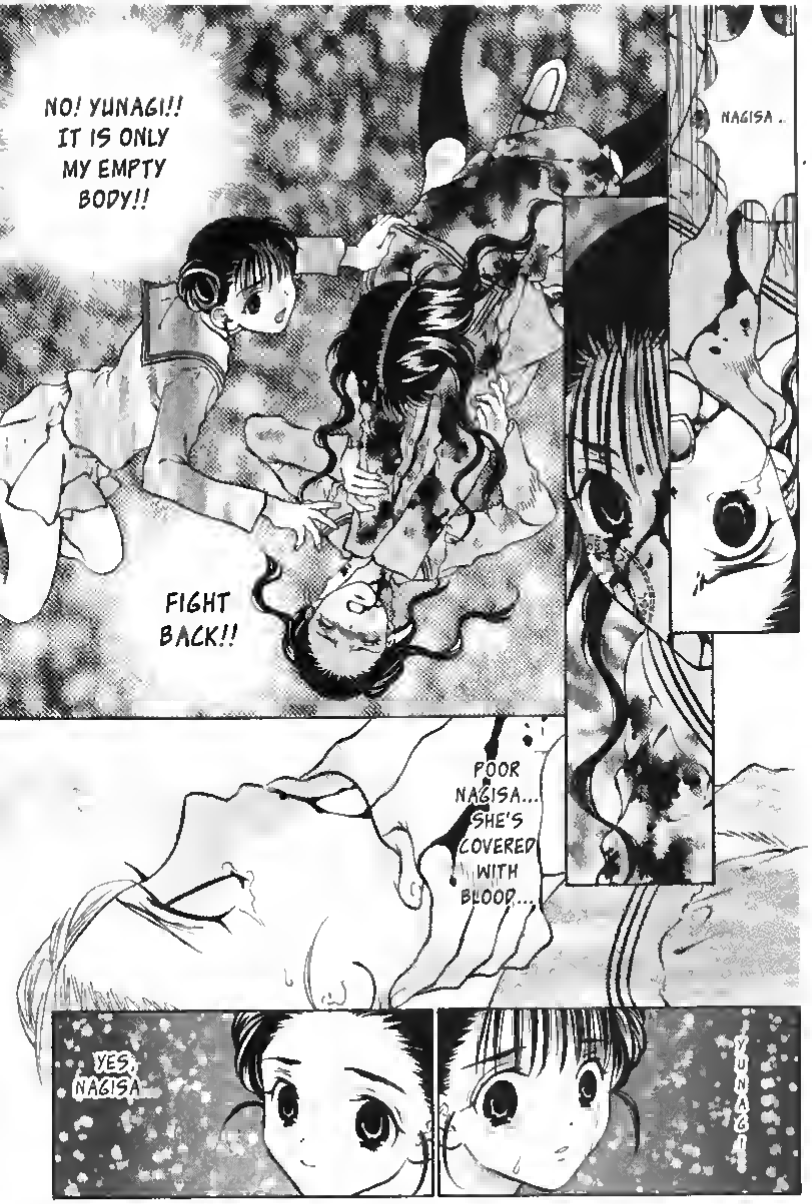
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN DO THAT! I'M NOT A GOD!!
I WANT YOU TO DO IT YOURSELF
YOU WANT ME TO ASK THE DEVIL TO MAKE REVIVAL MAGIC?
SO YOU WERE BORN THAT WAY, WITH MAGICAL BLOOD.
YOUR BLOOD HAS A LOT OF MAGIC, EVEN WITHOUT SACRIFICING ANYTHING.
THEN TELL ME WHAT YOU ARE
ASK? NO.

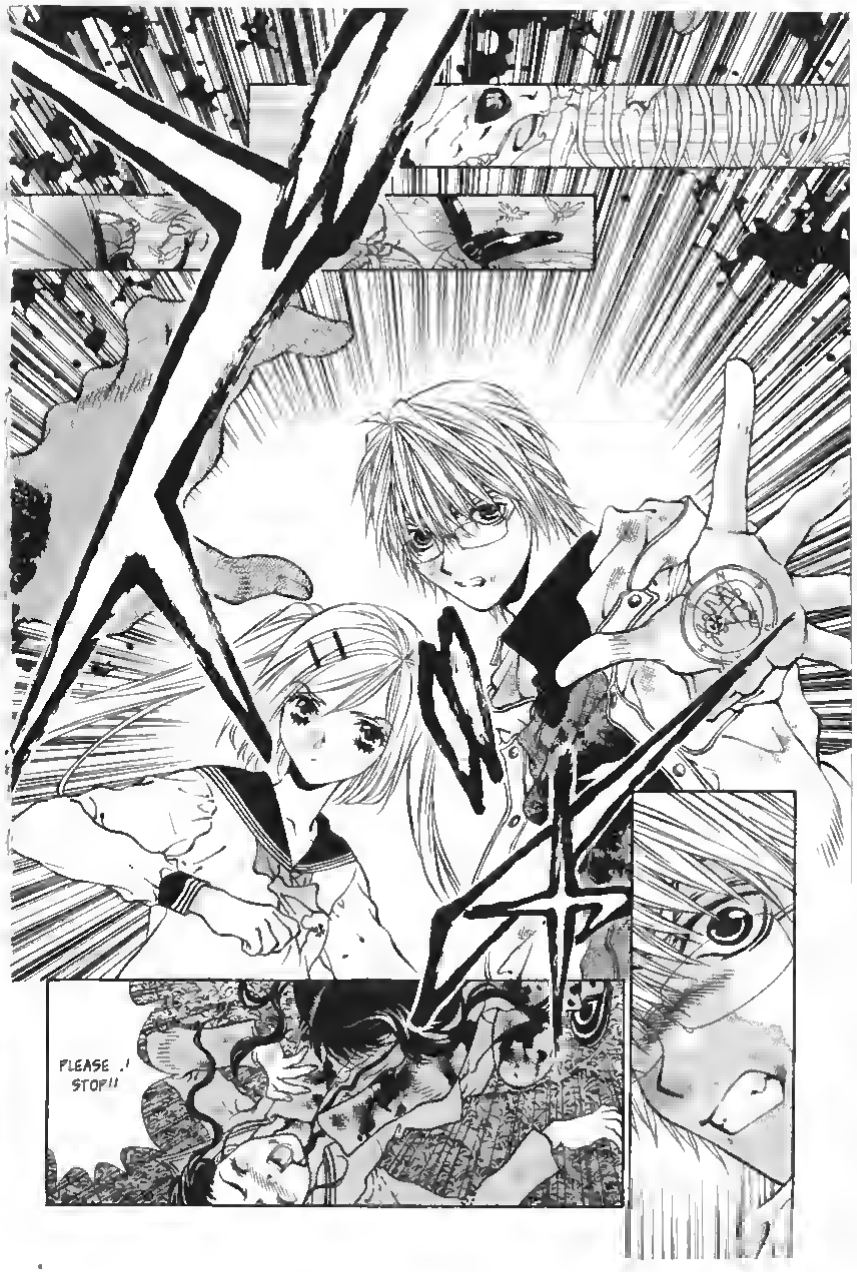
QUITE THE SCARY SPELL, ISN'T IT?
I'M GOOD AT CONTROLLING CORPSES
そぴ
BUT I WANT MORE THAN LIVING DEATH. I WANT TO GIVE MY DAUGHTER A REAL LIFE.
PLEASE SAVE MY DAUGHTER.
SO PLEASE...

DON'T EVER ASK ABOUT YOUR FATHER!!
PLEASE DON'T ASK PURSON ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING YOURSELF.
THE MAGIC CHARMS TATTOOED ON MY BODY THEY SUCKED AWAY MOM'S LIFE AND BECAME STRONGER WITH DEMON'S BLOOD
LISTEN, MAKOTO
...UNLESS HE IS THE CHILD OF SOMETHING FAR FROM HUMAN!
I JUST TOOK OVER THE CONTRACT MY MOTHER MADE WITH THE DEMON PURSON...
NO HUMAN BEING IS BORN WITH BLOOD OF MAGIC...

WE'LL BEGIN THE SABBATH NOW

THE SON OF A WITCH WHOSE VEINS COURSE WITH DEMON'S BLOOD. YOU ARE THE PURE HIGH WITCH I WAS SEEKING
PLEASE, GIVE LIFE TO MY DAUGHTER.
SPIRIT
LIVING BLOOD
WARMTH
IF YOU SAY NO...
GET OUT OF HERE!! I'M JUST A DETECTIVE!!


NO! YUNAGI!! IT IS ONLY MY EMPTY BODY!!
NAGISA .
FIGHT BACK!!
POOR NAGISA... SHE'S COVERED WITH BLOOD...
YES, NAGISA
NAGISA!


PLEASE .! STOP!!

WE SHOULD ALWAYS BE TOGETHER...
COME ON!! ARE YOU OKAY?!
YIKES
GIVE ME THE ARROWS!
THEY'RE JUST DEAD BODIES CONTROLLED BY A SPELL

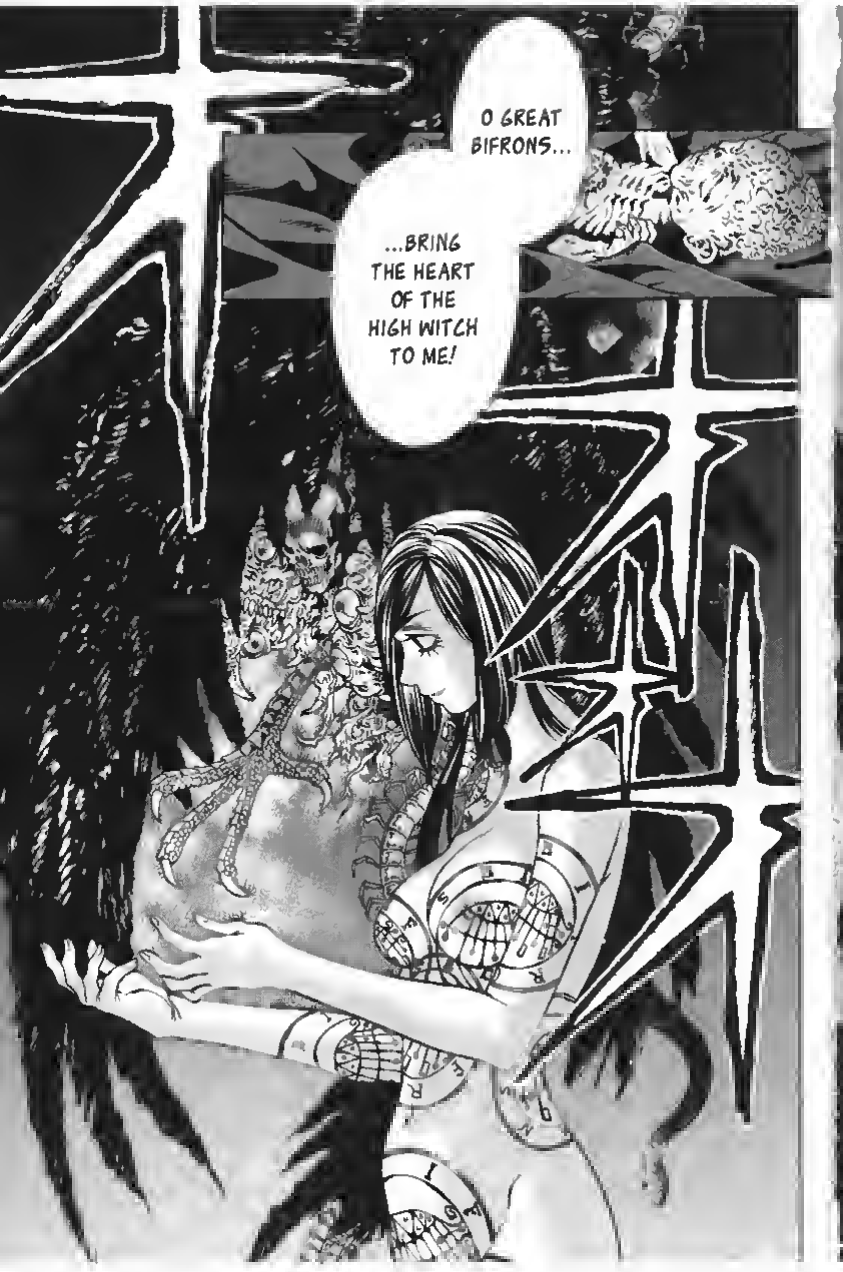
JEEZ. SHE MAKES A REQUEST AND THEN SHE WANTS TO KILL YOU.
NO. THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG.
IF THE DETECTIVE IS REALLY THE HIGH WITCH...
...THERE'S NO WAY SHE CAN KILL HIM.
NOT HER OR ALL HER MINION CORPSES.

THE DIVINE AID OF BUDDHA AND GOD WILL GUARD AGAINST ATTACKS FROM THE FOES, DRIVING THEM AWAY.

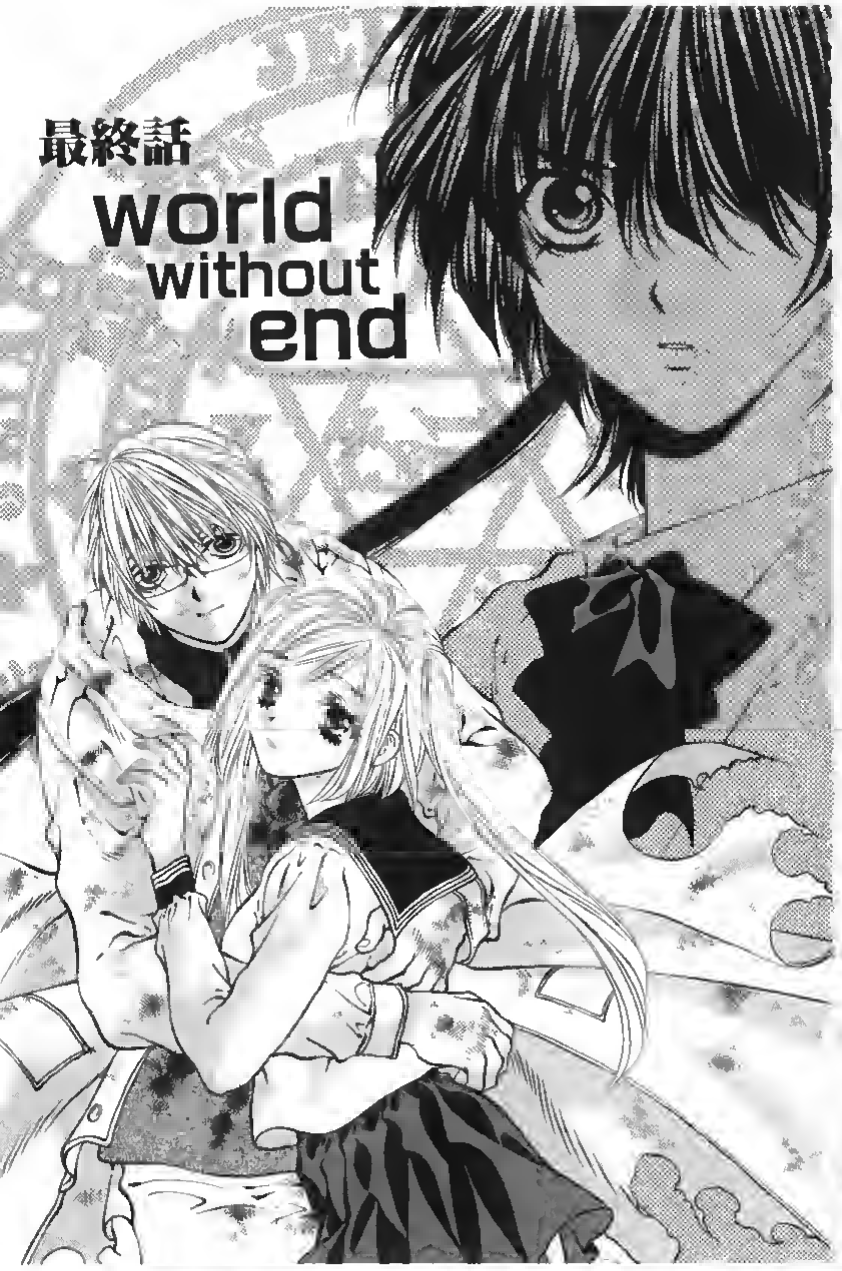
OKAY THEN!
THAT SHOULD HELP. THE REST IS UP TO YOUR SKILLS NOW!

AAAGGHH!
FROM MY SOUL'S DEPTHS I CALL TO THE HIGH ONE. I CAME TO LIFE BY HIS WILL... AND EVER DO I OBEY IT. PRESENT YOURSELF NOW.
MAKOTO
IT'S A LIE!!
PRESENT YOURSELF, IN THE NAME OF THE HIGHEST.

BUT WHY DOES SHE WANT TO KILL HIM ANYWAY?!
MAYBE SHE KNOWS SOMETHING YOU DON'T.
THE HIGHEST WITCH CAN BE A SACRIFICE FOR REVIVAL MAGIC...
MAYBE IT'S THE BEST SACRIFICE SHE CAN ASK FOR!!

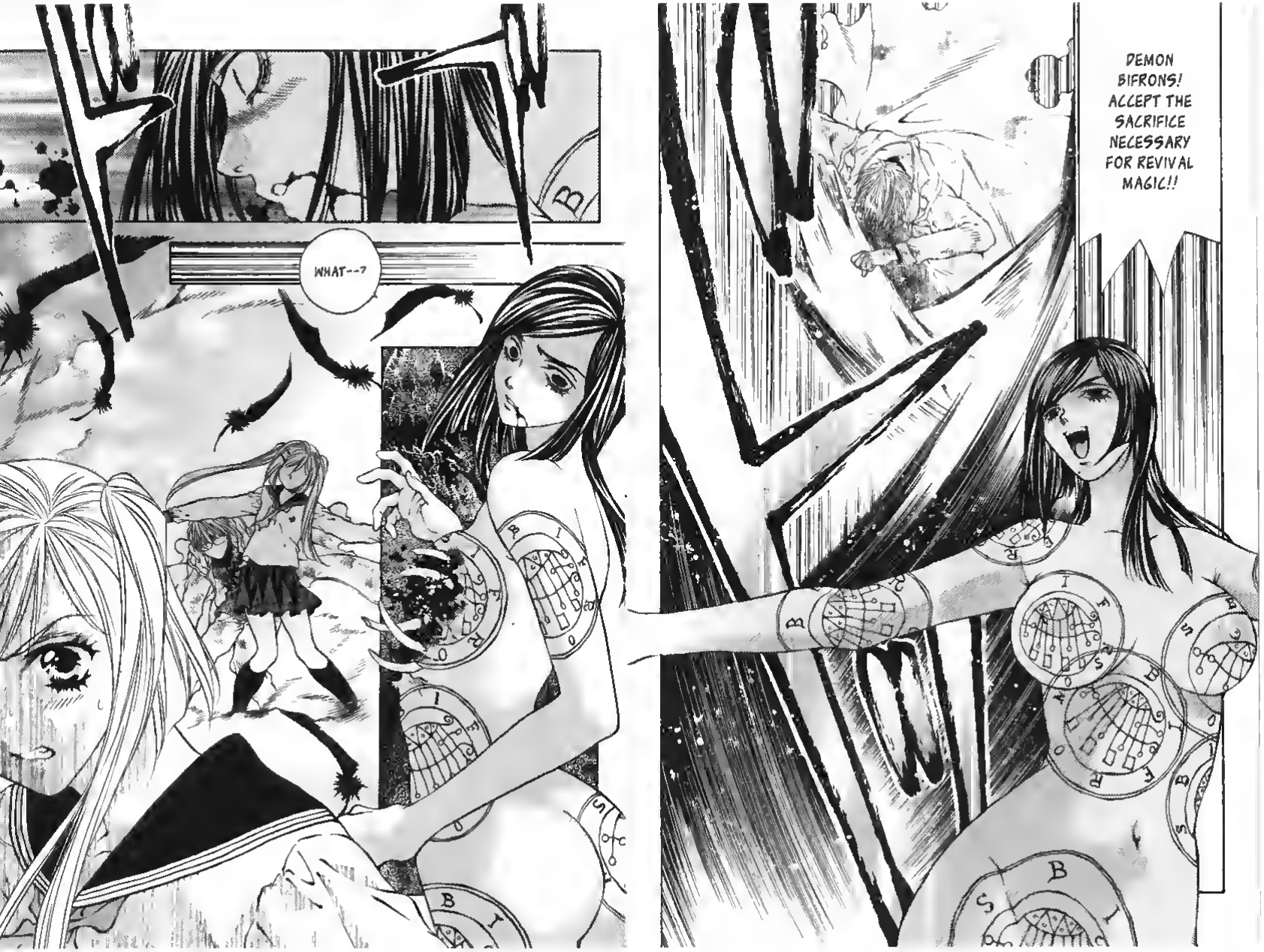

O GREAT BIFRONS...
...BRING THE HEART OF THE HIGH WITCH TO ME!

MOM WAS SEARCHING FOR DAD AND THAT'S WHY SHE MADE A DEAL WITH THE DEVIL...
IT'S BETTER TO NOT ASK.
BY THE POWER OF THE ETERNAL LAW, AND OF THE SPIRITS I HAVE SACRIFICED, AND BY YOUR POWER.
I SPEAK IN THE NAME OF GOD WHO SHAKES THE EARTH AND BOILS THE OCEANS AND ASK YOU.
THEN WHAT WERE ALL OF THE CHARMS ON MY BODY FOR?!
DID MOM KNOW EVERYTHING!?


最終話
world
without
end

MAKOTO!!
第23話 完

HIGH MAGIC FOR A HIGH WITCH.
IT WILL BE IMPOS-SIBLE...
...TO DODGE...
...OR TO CAST BACK THIS DEVIL'S SPELL!!


WHAT--?
DEMON BIFRONS! ACCEPT THE SACRIFICE NECESSARY FOR REVIVAL MAGIC!!

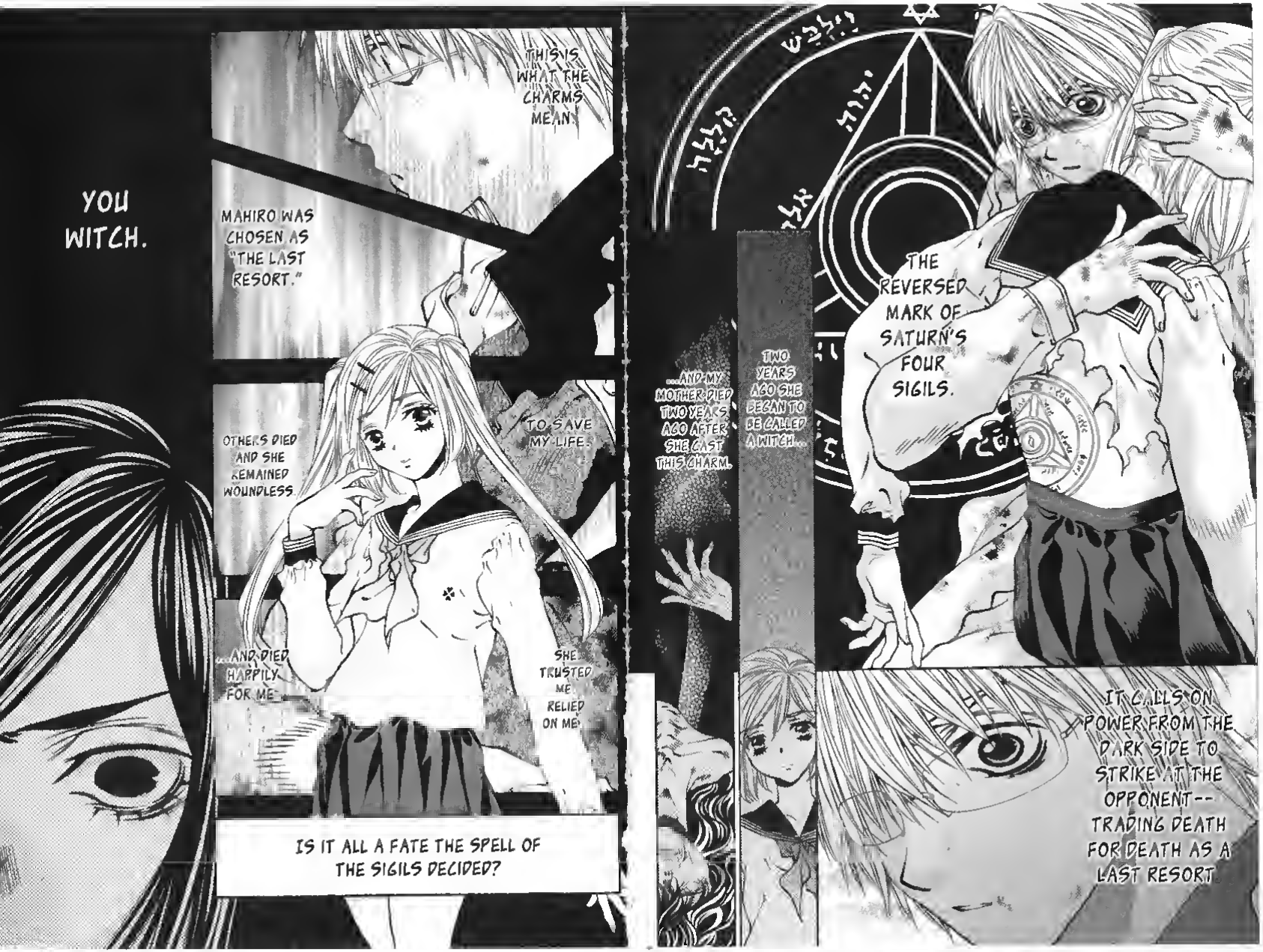
IT'S ALL RIGHT.
BUT I HAVE PROOF THAT YOU EXISTED.
IT MEANS I WAS A MOTHER.
SO STRANGE... NOT AT ALL THE LIFE THAT I EXPECTED.
MY DARLING.. MOMMY IS WITH YOU.

WHY DID THE SPELL BOUNCE BACK?
WHY...?
?!
YOU...
...WITCH...

MAHIRO... ARE YOU OKAY?
MAKOTO...

MAHIRO!!
WAKE UP, MAHIRO!
SHE CAN'T--! SHE'S SUPPOSED TO BE INVINCIBLE.
SO HOW...
OH...! LOOK AT HER BACK...

I WAS [illegible] TO BE [illegible] SHIELD.
IT WAS ALL...FOR YOU...
IT'S ALL RIGHT, MAKOTO. IF MY DEATH HAS MEANING, THEN I WELCOME IT...


YOU WITCH.
THIS IS WHAT THE CHARMS MEAN.
MAHIRO WAS CHOSEN AS "THE LAST RESORT."
TO SAVE MY LIFE.
OTHERS DIED AND SHE REMAINED WOUNDLESS.
...AND DIED HAPPILY FOR ME.
SHE TRUSTED ME RELIED ON ME.
IS IT ALL A FATE THE SPELL OF THE SIGILS DECIDED?
...AND MY MOTHER DIED TWO YEARS AGO AFTER SHE CAST THIS CHARM.
TWO YEARS AGO SHE BEGAN TO BE CALLED A WITCH...
THE REVERSED MARK OF SATURN'S FOUR SIGILS.
IT CALLS ON POWER FROM THE DARK SIDE TO STRIKE AT THE OPPONENT-- TRADING DEATH FOR DEATH AS A LAST RESORT.

GO...
LEAVE US RIGHT NOW
HUH?
I'LL FOLLOW SOON ENOUGH.
BUT WE COULD NEVER DO THAT!
REALLY?

MAHIRO!!
THE TRUE WITCH WAS ME!!
SWISH SWISH...

AFTER A HORRIBLE NIGHT OF KILLING...
DID THE TERRIBLE, GHOULISH WITCH HUNT REALLY END?
...WHERE DO WE FIND THE ROAD TO REDEMPTION?

LET'S JUST GO!
WE'LL SEE EACH OTHER AGAIN?
THE CURSED FESTIVAL IS ENDING...
ANSWER ME, MAKOTO!

CAN WE EVER GO HOME AND FIND A PLACE IN THE SUN?
POLICE ARE STILL INVESTIGATING THE CONNECTION BETWEEN THE BUS ACCIDENT AND THE UNIDENTIFIED CORPSES ON THE MOUNTAIN. .
ALTA
THIS WAY! HURRY!
WAIT UP ..!
Hirasaka Detective Agency
I FOUND YOU! DETECTIVE MAKOTO HIRASAKA!!
HI WELCOME
ARE YOU LOOKING FOR SOMETHING?
YOU! I WAS LOOKING FOR YOU!!
OH, A GUEST. LET ME GET TEA.
YOU...

THERE WAS NO WITCH THERE!
THERE WAS ONLY A TERRIBLE, BRUTAL WIDOW
THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO SAY TAKE CARE
YOU, TOO YOU GUYS STAY TIGHT

WE THOUGHT YOU DIED IN THE MOUNTAINS..
IS YOUR PINKY OKAY?
YOU MADE US LEAVE LIKE THAT
. AND NEVER GOT BACK TO US
!
IT'S NOTHING.
ANYWAY, I HAD SOMETHING I WANTED TO TELL YOU...
I CAN STILL FORM A MUDRA... AND THIS IS A SMALL PUNISHMENT, REALLY.

I'M COMING!
HEY, RINKO?

WE'RE NOT?
HEY, WE'RE NOT LIKE THAT.
WE'RE ALIVE AND LAUGHING LIKE THE WHOLE THING NEVER HAPPENED.
THAT'S RIGHT, THERE WAS NO WITCH.
HURRY!! MAHIRO!

HEY!
WHAT'S WRONG, RINKO?
THAT IMPOSSIBLE MAGIC THAT INVADED GOD'S REALM...
THAT FORBIDDEN MAGIC THE WIDOW WISHED FOR.
NO, IT'S NOTHING.

NO WAY! SHE DIED...
SHE DIED AS A SHIELD TO HIS LIFE.
BUT MAYBE HE WAS ABLE TO DO IT.

Innocent W

The End

DURING THE SERIES, I MADE COUNTLESS TRIPS TO THE HOSPITAL, ALMOST DIED MANY TIMES AND PEERED INTO THE DARKER SIDE OF MY LIFE, BOTH MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY.

THANKS FOR STAYING WITH ME ALL THE WAY 'TIL THE END OF *INNOCENT W.*

I HAD TO TAKE OFF SO MUCH, I CAUSED A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR MY EDITOR. I'M VERY SORRY.

I'LL SEE YOU AGAIN SOON!!

BY THE TIME THIS BOOK IS OUT, I HOPE MY BODY AND SOUL WILL HAVE GAINED THE ENERGY AND MOTIVATION TO WORK AGAIN

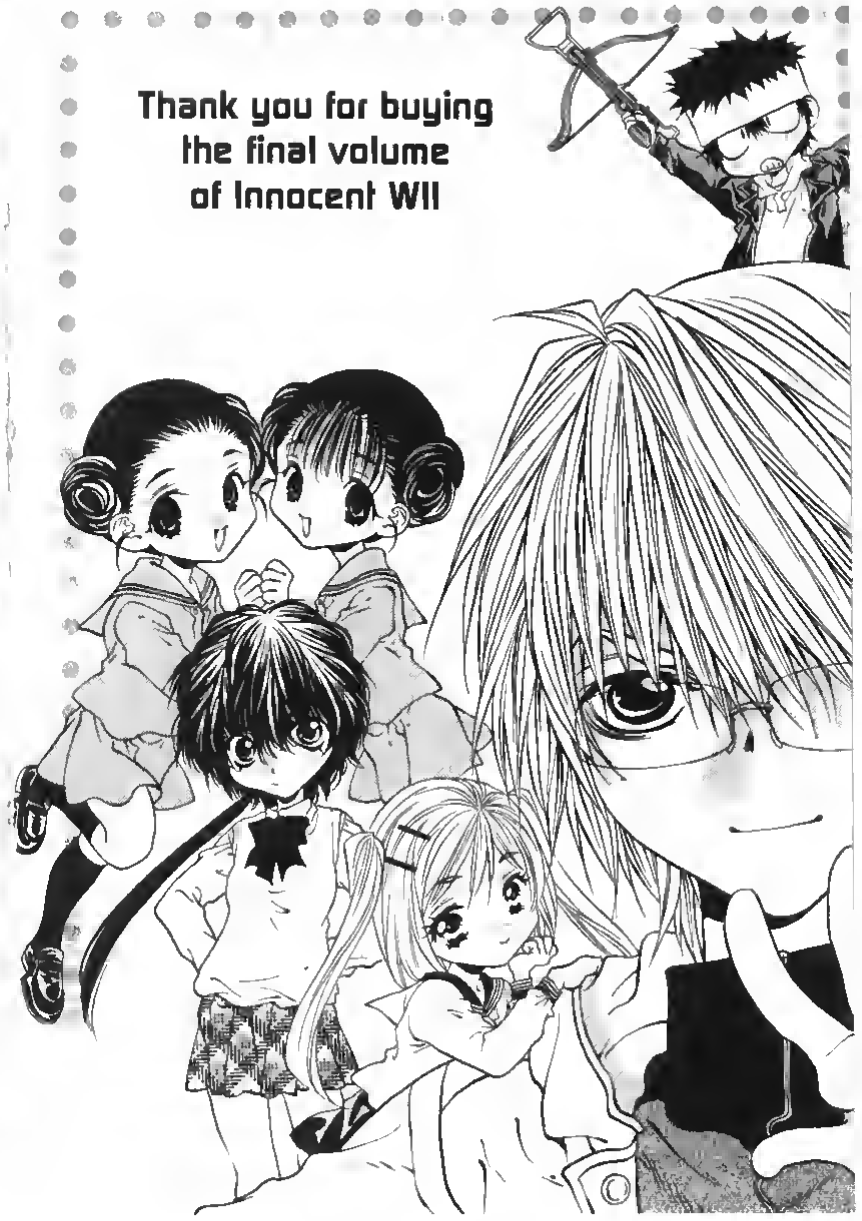
THAT MY DREAMS WILL COME TRUE

I SHOULD TRY TO BELIEVE

SO WE HAVE TO BELIEVE IN OUR OWN FAITH

BUT WE NEVER KNOW WHAT HAPPENS IN LIFE.

Thank you for buying the final volume of Innocent W!!



Ritsuka Manga
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